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ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION CONDEMNS EEC SANCTIONS

PY171951 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1850 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 17 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Carlos Alzamora, permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), in a statement released in Caracas on Thursday denounced the economic sanctions applied against Argentina by the EEC and countries outside the Latin American region in support of colonial interests. He said this is a very serious act which should be submitted for the collective consideration of the Latin American countries as soon as possible.

He said the situation should serve to start up the defense mechanisms foreseen by SELA in such cases. Among possible joint actions, he mentioned a similar treatment of exports from those countries.

The president of the Andean Pact said, however, in a dialogue with the press that it was not appropriate that the pact countries should cease importing from or exporting to Great Britain as a reprisal to the EEC attitude toward Argentina.

According to the SELA secretary, the sanctions ordered by the EEC show clearly the imperative need for regional solidarity and coordination in defense of interests which now prove to be essentially common, and the need for Latin America to strengthen and enliven its mechanisms for concerted action.

ANDEAN PACT MARKETS REMAIN OPEN TO ARGENTINA

PY180436 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1945 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Lima, 17 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The chairman of the Andean Pact Commission, Orlando Alcivar, today asserted that the markets of the subregion are open so that Argentina may buy and sell products for so long as the EEC boycott against Argentina lasts. Alcivar added: This is designed to help member countries of the Latin American community and of the Latin American Integration Association [LAIA].

Alcivar said at a press conference that the Andean Pact knows of the events and that they deplore acts of the EEC and all the industrialized countires that have approved the boycott. Alcivar stated: We condemned the EEC measures against Argentina during a meeting of representatives of the Andean countries, which are Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

For his part, the Ecuadorean representative, Washington Herrera, who is a member of the board -- a technical organization under the Andean Pact -- stated that the subregional organization this morning signed a document approving a resolution that requests that the UK lift economic sanctions against Argentina. The Andean group wants to contribute positively in the face of the adverse measures against Argentina. We want to buy more and sell more to Argentina, Herrera added.

The Argentine situation was reviewed, and through consensus it has been decided to act in solidarity and in a concrete fashion through a faster trade exchange, now that Argentina has been affected by the economic blockade, said Herrera. Herrera reasserted that the Andean Pact will not only release a document of protest, but also that it condemns the EEC measures. We have signed a clear and forceful declaration, said Herrera, who, along with Alcivar, was asked about the matter before their departure.

In the Andean Pact's document of solidarity, the commission asked the board for an analysis of the present economic and trade relations between Argentina and the Andean Pact with a view to increasing Argentine exchange with the subregion and with the other LAIA member countries.

Herrera asserted that the boycott imposed in the wake of the Argentine-UK conflict over the Malvinas Islands has been received with deep concern and that they believe the measure aggravates the dispute between the two countries.

NEGOTIATIONS TO END FALKLANDS DISPUTE CONTINUE

Reagan Dispels Fears

PY161944 Formosa Canal Once Television Network in Spanish 1913 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] [In progress] ... the telephone conversation which Argentine President Leopoldo Galtieri held yesterday with his colleague Reagan.

The officials stated that President Galtieri [as heard] dispelled fears that arose due to the increasing number of rumors regarding the support which the United States would allegedly be giving Great Britain in the crisis over the Malvinas Islands while the government is seeking a peaceful solution to the dispute.

The officials asserted that the presidents did not discuss the rumors that the U.S. military intelligence apparatus is allegedly supplying information on the movement of the Argentine troops and weather forecasts on the conditions on the archipelago to the British.

At the White House the conversation was also listened into by Reagan's National Security Advisor William Clark and the President's Chief of Staff James Baker.

'No Progress' 17 Apr

PY170439 Paris AFP in Spanish 0407 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (AFP) -- The good offices mission being carried out by Secretary of State Alexander Haig to find a solution for the Argentine-British crisis has made no progress so far, sources close to Government House said tonight.

Three points on which Argentina is not budging are keeping the Argentine flag in the Malvinas, maintaining an Argentine military governor, and exercising sovereignty over the Malvinas, Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

Argentine Foreign Minister Costa Mendez paid a 15-minute visit to Haig at his hotel tonight, and he declined to answer questions from the press as he left.

Before going to the hotel, Costa Mendez had reported to the military committee -- which is composed of the government military junta and the nation's president -- on the developments of the negotiations for a peaceful solution, with the assistance of the United States, to the crisis with Great Britain.

A dinner that was to be held for Haig and his delegation at the residence of Costa Mendez was suspended without giving any explanation, Foreign Ministry sources reported.

Haig Meets With Military Junta

PY171320 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1311 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- The military junta meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig began at 1005. In addition to junta members General Galtieri, Admiral Anaya and General Lami Dozo, the meeting is attended by Argentine Foreign Minister Costa Mendez and the Ambassador on special mission Vernon Walters.

Proposal Reportedly Rejected

PY171357 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1223 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- According to press reports released here today, the proposal submitted yesterday by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to the Argentine Government for reaching a peaceful solution to the dispute with Great Britain was "deemed unacceptable" by Buenos Aires authorities.

This is the main reason why the negotiations conducted by President Ronald Reagan's envoy are at a "deadlock," since the main issue, the recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the Malivnas Islands, is at a stalemate.

Diplomatic sources have revealed that the proposal submitted by Haig and debated during difficult negotiations held yesterday included the following items:

1) The withdrawal of Argentine troops from the islands and the return of the British fleet to its bases;

2) The creation of a temporary tripartite administration of the islands, with the participation of the United States, Britain and Argentina;

3) The negotiation, to be started in December 1982, over the statute that will rule the islands; more precisely, negotiations over the status of the islands to decide whether they will become a free nation, an associated country or something else;

4) "Getting to know" [conocer] the islanders' will;

5) Argentina maintaining its commercial flights to the Malvinas and its gas and oil supply services which were operating before 2 April in the meantime.

Talks Continue 18 Apr

PY180205 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0153 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- Press Secretary Rodolfo Baltierrez has just reported at Government House that "the talks are still open" with the delegation headed by Alexander Haig.

The official also revealed that within a few minutes the other two members of the military junta are expected at Government House, where they will meet immediately with President Galtieri.

Haig's Mission at 'Deadlock'

PY180500 Paris AFP in Spanish 0422 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (AFP) -- The negotiations which U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has been conducting here on the Malvinas conflict has come to a deadlock despite more than 9 hours of talks, it was learned in well-informed sources.

The source said that no substantial progress had been made today after Haig's meeting with the Argentine military junta this morning and after 7 hours of talks with Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez at the presidential palace.

The negotiations, which are designed to avoid an armed confrontation between Argentina and Great Britain, will continue tomorrow, Sunday, the Argentine and U.S. spokesmen have announced.

The main obstacle in the talks continues to be the question of sovereignty over the islands, diplomatic sources have said. Buenos Aires considers the recognition of Argentine sovereignty as an indispensable condition for any agreement while the British Government refuses to accept this condition.

Haig, Thatcher Reportedly Talk

PY180519 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0439 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] London, 18 Apr (TELAM) -- British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher tonight held a telephone conversation with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who is in Buenos Aires, to inquire into the status of "the good offices" mission Reagan's envoy has been conducting between Argentina and Great Britain, diplomatic spokesmen have said.

While there has been no official confirmation about the conversation, sources close to 10 Downing Street have noted that Thatcher and Haig had exchanged ideas about the future course of the "good offices" mission during the one or several calls exchanged between London and Buenos Aires.

The prime minister today had to leave her official summer residence at Chequers and went to London to hold urgent consultations with her ministerial crisis committee.

Meanwhile, General Haig today had a busy day meeting with top-ranking Argentine officials, carrying on his mission in the Argentine-British conflict over the Malvinas Islands.

Ministry Position 'Firm'

PY181431 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1418 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- An authorized source from San Martin Palace has said that the position of the Foreign Ministry in the negotiations with the U.S. secretary of state is "hard and firm."

Implicitly he admitted that Haig's departure may take place tonight. He confirmed that he is going to meet with Caltieri at 1400, insinuating that Haig is going to play some sport this morning.

The same source said that General Haig has admitted that "Mrs Thatcher was a very difficult person to negotiate with and reiterated the firmness of the Foreign Ministry's position in the negotiations."

Government May Resort to TIAR

PY181607 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1550 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- It has been learned simultaneously at Government House and from the U.S. State Department in Washington that Argentina could resort -- with strong possibilities of success -- to the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) if the negotiations being carried out by Secretary of State Alexander Haig in the crisis over the Malvinas Islands fail.

It has been learned that the U.S. efforts are centered -- in addition to reaching an acceptable solution for Buenos Aires and London -- in preventing Argentina from resorting to TIAR. Argentine sources indicated that Argentina already has the necessary 11 votes -- plus one -- to hold a consultative meeting of the OAS and a discussion of the conflict within this treaty. To resort to the treaty it is required first to hold a consultative meeting with the nations and with a debate on whether or not to apply the 1947 Rio de Janeiro treaty.

The votes that Argentina reportedly has assured in this first and crucial meeting of the OAS are: Barzil, Bolivia, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Venezuela, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Those opposed are the United States and Trinidad and Tobago while Mexico, Chile and Haiti have not yet made a decision.

Costa Mendez on Negotiation

PY181655 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1612 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez today admitted that "there is no real progress" in the negotiations over the Malvinas Islands but he mentioned as a "positive fact" the continuation of the negotiations.

He said that he did not talk with President Leopoldo Galtieri except for a brief telephone message and that he also has not talked with his counterpart Alexander Haig. Therefore "I have nothing to report."

Upon his arrival at the Foreign Ministry, Costa Mendez said that "there is something positive" and that is "that negotiations continue."

He then said: But at the same time "there is something not so positive and that is that there is no real progress [no hay progreso cierto]."

He said that at any rate "we still believe that negotiations are better than war" and "therefore we are putting all our efforts in the negotiations thinking that the task of a diplomat and a statesman -- as it turns out in this case to be me -- is that of preserving peace and preventing war without Argentina losing any of its attributes or suffering any damage."

Asked if he believed that the position of the Foreign Ministry could be labeled as "hard" he said that "I would rather not use adjectives, I would only like to say that the Foreign Ministry states and defends Argentine national interests with the appropriate strength."

Asked if after the meeting he is going to hold with Haig there may be some news, he said: "There may be some by this evening."

He said he "had no idea" when Haig is leaving Argentina. He said: "We are making every necessary effort to preserve peace so that Argentina does not suffer but, on the contrary, that it does affirm its nature as a free and sovereign country."

In conclusion, he explained that the meeting will be attended, in addition to Haig and himself, by advisors of the two officials. He denied that Galtieri is going to take part in this stage of the negotiations.

Walters Departs for New York

PY190310 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- Gen Vernon Walters, President Ronald Reagan's envoy and member of Alexander Haig's entourage, left tonight for New York on board a commercial flight on a "mission that has nothing to do" with the Argentine-UK conflict over the Malvinas Islands.

Costa Mendez Briefs Galtieri

PY190524 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0522 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Apr (NA) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez is now briefing President Leopoldo Galtieri on the talks he held with Alexander Haig.

Negotiations Continue 19 Apr

PY190615 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0548 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Apr (NA) -- U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and the Argentine authorities will today continue to hold talks aimed at finding points of agreement to enable a peaceful solution to the crisis over the Malvinas Islands, after yesterday's talks which were the longest since the White House interceded to solve the controversy.

Haig and Costa Mendez met for almost 12 hours at the Casa Rosada, which became the main site of the tense negotiations aimed at reconciling the conflicting positions held by Argentina and Great Britain on sovereignty over the Malvinas, Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

At approximately 0215, about 20 minutes after Haig had left for the Sheraton Hotel, Public Information Secretary Rodolfo Baltierrez told newsmen that "the negotiations continue" and that the working groups of Argentina and the United States "will continue to talk."

While Baltierrez told newsmen that they could go to sleep after an exhausting day by indicating that no further information would be released, Foreign Minister Costa Mendez was still meeting with President Leopoldo Galtieri to discuss possible courses of action to be taken in the negotiations.

Amid pessimistic and contradictory reports on the diplomatic action of President Ronald Reagan's envoy, the long hours absorbed by the negotiations can give one the impression that attempts continue to be made to seek rapprochement and to avoid an armed confrontation in the South Atlantic.

Between yesterday and today, Haig completed 28 hours of meetings with Argentine authorities. In any case, the prevailing impression in diplomatic circles is that room for negotiations has narrowed considerably.

Haig and Costa Mendez initiated yesterday at 1445 a number of meetings in a fresh, exhausting race against time while Argentina and Great Britain continued to redouble their military preparations.

Counterproposal Discussed

PY190837 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0800 GMT 19 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Text] The main headline of the newspaper CLARIN in its 19 April edition states: An Argentine counterproposal is being analyzed. The Argentine and U.S. negotiators were discussing early this morning a counterproposal made by our country to take the negotiations out of the deadlock they had reached yesterday.

The counterproposal guarantees the Argentine presence on the islands through a joint administration with British delegates and the resumption of diplomatic negotiations for securing recognition of our sovereignty within the United Nations. The United States would oversee compliance with this proposal.

Press Assesses Haig's Mission

PY181107 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The following items also appear on the front page of LA NACION today, Sunday, 18 April: Several reports, many of which are contradictory, were circulating last night at the press room in Government House after the departure of Alexander Haig. The prevailing report indicates that Alexander Haig would return to Washington this morning at 1100, after reporting to San Martin Palace.

In today's issue, the newspaper CLARIN carries the following headlines: Every Instance Is Being Exhausted, Haig Held More Than 12 Hours of Discussions With Argentine Authorities, No Progress Has Been Made, Public Information Secretary Says That Talks Are Still Open.

For its part, CONVICCION today carries only a single front-page item under the title: The Last Step in the Negotiations. CONVICCION states that early today upon the conclusion of the meeting of the military committee, it appeared that there was a stalemate in the negotiations conducted by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Yesterday's marathon talks resulted in the Argentine position becoming flexible and reflected the extreme good will of the U.S. negotiator but the British intransigence in refusing to recognize Argentine sovereignty over the islands was a stumbling block to making any substantial progress.

Today, before Haig's departure, the last step in the negotiations will take place, CONVICCION states.

GALTIERI: FALKLANDS WILL NOT BE ABANDONED

PY181725 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1713 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- President Galtieri said this afternoon that "we are not going to abandon" [no vamos a abandonar] the Malvinas Islands because "we are in Argentine territory."

Galtieri made these remarks upon arriving at Government House from the Libertador Building, where he headed a meeting with army generals.

He also said that he is willing to meet again with Secretary of State Alexander Haig who is expected here in a few more minutes.

He reiterated that "as long as negotiations continue there are possibilities for a solution."

GALTIERI HOLDS MEETING WITH GENERALS 19 APR

Confrontation Unavoidable

PY190022 Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (AFP) -- It was learned today from reliable Argentine Army sources that the generals of the Argentine Army who met in Buenos Aires left today for their respective commands in the belief that an armed confrontation with the UK over the Malvinas Islands dispute is unavoidable.

At the end of a 2-day meeting in which Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, the Argentine president, personally informed them about the development of negotiations with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, one of the generals said that there is no agreement and we must prepare to defend ourselves.

Another general said: The solution is further away than the British fleet.

The same source added that the generals were also informed that Alexander Haig had threatened three times [as received] the Argentine Government that he would put an end to his good offices mission because of the stalemate over the recognition of the sovereignty of the archipelago.

Commanders Arrive for Meeting

PY190122 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 0105 GMT on 19 April reports that Argentine Navy Commander Jorge Anaya arrived at Government House a little before 0100 GMT. At 0106 GMT NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS reports that Argentine Air Force Commander Basilio Lami Dozo arrived at Government House at 0106. The latter report says that a military junta meeting is "expected to begin within a few minutes."

Meeting Ends

PY190325 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0319 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- Navy Commander Jorge Anaya and Air Force Commander Basilio Lami Dozo left Government House at 0010 [0310 GMT].

POPE JOHN PAUL, GALTIERI EXCHANGE MESSAGES

PY180303 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0210 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- The text of Pope John Paul's exhortation and of the answer that Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri addressed to the pope were released tonight by Government House.

The text of the pope's dramatic exhortation is as follows:

"The very deep concern that exists in my spirit in view of the dispute that has broken out between your nation and Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands has been increasing in view of the reports about the obstacles that the search for a diplomatic solution is encountering.

"I particularly feel the urgent need and duty of personally renewing, Mr President, the call that I made in my Easter message.

"I do not doubt that Your Excellency and your government will know how to take advantage of the possibilities that are offered with justice and the respect for the principles of international law to seek a peaceful solution to the crisis that broke out at the end of March with the prospects of a bloody armed conflict.

"May the Lord instill sentiments of wisdom and moderation in the responsible persons, and may He light their paths so that they can find a peaceful solution, which may prove difficult, but I believe and have confidence that it will always be possible."

Following is President Galtieri's answer:

"Your Holiness:

Your Holiness' exhortation regarding the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict that we maintain with Great Britain has arrived at a very important time during the talks that we are holding to that end with the U.S. Government, which has given its assistance in order to achieve such an understanding.

"Our country, during the development of these negotiations, has made important and very costly efforts to contribute to their success and we have thus maintained an attitude of extreme good will that has been noted and appreciated by the assisting nation.

"We are now waiting for a similar conduct to emerge from the United Kingdom, although its government's latest decision was to increase the blockade, stressing with this measure its evident disposition to continue with the hostilities.

"Our country firmly believes in justice and the need for carrying out this sovereign action and it knows, due to its profound faith and Catholic tradition, that this legitimate vindication must be maintained with a peaceful disposition, with calm and prudence.

"Therefore, it now only demands the reasonable exercise of its right that has been imposed without spilling one drop of foreign blood. We Argentines are therefore willing to give our all in order to implement a respectful peace, but we will not be humiliated by any type of intention dictated by hurt pride and less so if its is supported by the haughty use of force. I beg Your Holiness to ask God, our Lord, to light our paths during these days and I once again ask you to extend to our country your apostolic blessing, because at this time we are very much in need of spiritual help."

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

PY181810 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1759 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (NA) -- Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean has called all provincial governors for a meeting at Government House tomorrow at 1700 to brief them on the Malvinas Islands situation.

He also called for a meeting of leaders of political parties for next Tuesday at 1100 for the same purpose.

MINISTER SAINT JEAN ON FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS

PY161709 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The interior minister admitted that if the good offices negotiations undertaken by Alexander Haig fail to solve the Argentine-British conflict over the Malvinas Islands there are still other channels to resort to before taking extreme steps.

This was stated by Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean this morning at the metropolitan airport before leaving for Salta where he presided over the main celebrations of the 400th foundation anniversary of this city on behalf of the president of the nation. He pointed out that the danger of the conflict becoming an international issue must make us think a lot, especially the powers which are involved in this issue.

The minister stated that the international organizations must get the EEC to reflect over the unjust measures taken against our country by prohibiting Argentine imports to that market.

The minister agreed with statements by the Uruguayan president that this problem could spark World War III should it become an international issue. [Words indistinct] however, he hopes that reason and good sense will prevail in the views and decisions which the great powers must take, especially those which have a decisive impact on this issue.

General Saint Jean pointed out that the problem with Great Britain cannot have any immediate nor sudden nor favorable outcome; therefore, calmness should prevail and we should have the spirit to wait a bit for the development of this event.

ALEMANN INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMY DURING CRISIS

PY162304 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0103 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Interview with Economy Minister Roberto Alemann in Buenos Aires on 15 April by Bernardo Neustadt and Mariano Grondona on "Tiempo Nuevo" program -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Under these delicate circumstances it is very difficult to get in touch with the nation's economy minister. Nor is it usual to invite the economy minister to talk and then call one of the critics of the economic process like [Alvaro] Alsogaray to hear his opinions. This can only be done under absolute freeom, because [words indistinct] and I should not fail to mention it. There must be many Argentines [words indistinct] I know some of them. One of them is Roberto Alemann.

The people say -- and I am part of the people -- that you do not qualify for the post of a minister during a war economy.

[Answer] I am sorry to disagree with that definition. This is in no way a war economy. We are facing a conflict which has been raised by Britain and toward which we have reacted, as the foreign minister explained, politically and diplomatically; and towards which we have also reacted financially and commercially. But in no way does that amount to a war economy or to anything similar. I would even say that the majority or almost all of those who say that this is an economy of war do not have the faintest idea of what they are talking about. A war-time economy is the result of a formally-declared state of war, and there is nothing of that sort, as the foreign minister stated here. We are negotiating without the expectations of [words indistinct] of war. We have even recovered our islands without a single shot. We have given the lives of our soldiers, not of theirs. This is by no means a war. This is a conflict, a difficulty which has raised a certain temporary tension and some measures with which we are coping quite successfully. This is not a war economy.

[Question] What fears do Argentines harbor, switching from the square where they shout Malvinas! Argentina! Argentina!" to the banks where they withdraw their money, thus shaking the Argentine economy?

[Answer] What may be happening -- based on what local banks report -- is a kind of panicking and fearing, because there are people who believe that the government will block their funds. It may be a psychological result of the blocking of Argentine funds -- a fully arbitrary and illegal measure -- adopted by the British Government. Then those people believe that since the British Government has blocked Argentine funds, Argentina is under a war economy and, therefore, the Argentine Government will block their funds. But we have never thought about anything of that sort. We do not have the slightest intention of doing that; nor we will not do it.

We are not going to impose a tax as others have said. Nor will we fail to pay the currency deposits having [words indistinct] which should be paid in currency, both deposits and interests if it has been so agreed.

Everything that has been agreed upon will be complied with. All of these rumors are absolutely baseless, but the people do not believe. I have denied it and so have both Engineer [name indistinct] and Doctor Bustamante also. I have said this on television and to the journalists accredited to the Economy Ministry. But, apparently, people have turned a deaf ear to our words. They only believe the rumors whispered in their ears saying: "Funds will be blocked tomorrow," and therefore they have to withdraw them. This is what people say, but it is not true.

Something similar happens here: Fears, panic and at times hysteria among people who will not listen to any reason. They go to the banks to withdraw their money and then they do not know what to do with it. Some people use that money to buy goods, in which case the money returns to the system because the salesman puts it back in a bank. Most of the people take their money to their houses and, as the vulgarism goes, keep it under the mattress. And in doing so they are risking the funds which would have central bank guarantees if they were deposited in banks or financial institutions. And they also lose interests, which now run at 2 percent weekly. It is something absolutely impossible to understand.

[Question] However, there was a report today that clearly shows that you cannot continue to be inflexible. You should do something about this 14 percent monthly rate. Today's situation is not the same as [words indistinct].

[Answer] In the first place, I am neither inflexible nor anything of the sort. Measures have already been adopted. The central bank has granted rediscounts, the bank of the Argentine nation has granted very short-term loans, and treasury bills have been withdrawn; all of this has improved the market's liquidity. But it was not until today that we were able to get a complete report, because the Argentine banking system is made up of approximately 400 banks throughout the country and they do not report on the flow of deposits and withdrawals on the same day these are made.

And we adopted a decision today -- the central bank has just reported it -- by which the minimum cash holdings [efectivo minimo] has been lowered by one percentage point as of 1 April as a means of attracting funds, and we have opened some more flexible lines of discount with the purpose of overcoming the lack of liquidity with the money which is being kept, as we said, under the mattress.

This will by no means have inappropriate consequences because it will be the same money. When money comes out from under the mattress -- and I expect this to happen starting on [words indistinct] -- it is not necessary for us to raise by one percentage point because discounts are returned and banks [words indistinct] treasury. In this way we are restoring normality.

[Question] Dr Alemann, it is apparently true that the economic and financial effect of the Malvinas crisis has been thus far more external than internal.

[Answer] The immediate economic effect has been internal due to that attitude of the public who have been withdrawing funds for the last 10 days from the financial institutions with no rational explanation. That has been the main result.

[Question] You mean the people's reaction in the wake of the crisis?

[Answer] Sure, it is the public's reaction, and by no means our government's reaction or the reaction of another government. That is what has happened. The government is studying the situation and its consequences and it is conducting negotiations which can be either brief or long and whose outcome may follow either this way or the other. We have been very cautious and we have asked our [words indistinct] colleagues -- in this emergency, in this special situation -- to abstain from making new purchases that can be postponed.

[Question] [Words indistinct] what is the trend of the [Falkland] recovery operation direct costs, the budgets and expenses?

[Answer] We have created a special fund, a special account for Malvinas Islands' espenses. There is naturally an expenditure advance for military purposes. Troops should be mobilized; fuel has to be spent; planes keep coming and going all the time from the mainland to the islands; ships have been mobilized. All of this costs money and we have the necessary disbursement, which is the expenditure advance which may or may not influence the budget, depending on the length of the conflict and its evolution. For the time being this disbursement does not have much impact, since it is barely an advance. It is the equivalent of a large maneuver the armed forces carry out once a year. I think this is the most important one of the latest year: And they have done it quite carefully, with high professional skill, reflected by the way they recovered the Malvinas.

[Question] [Words indistinct] here in Argentina we can buy as many dollars as we want, and we suddenly cannot buy anything. Will that continue to be so?

[Answer] The first measure that we had to adopt was to protect the monetary reserves, and the consequences have shown that we were right. In the face of an emergency raised by Britain's reaction blocking government and private funds we realized that our reserves were endangered. Then payments abroad were limited exclusively to those with specific maturity dates and with only 2-day advances. These are commercial payments on imports, on related insurance and freight operations and on financial maturity commitments [vencimientos financieros]. Otherwise, the market is operating perfectly well and currency is being both bought and sold. We cut the link between the monetary reserves and the public who wanted to buy them.

[Question] The problem is [words indistinct] you have somehow coined a series of words beginning with "de" like deflate, denationalize. Has all that been postponed during the Malvinas recovery?

[Answer] No, no, not at all. What is pending is the free exchange rate because of reasons which are quite clear and which everybody, all of the observers, have understood. I think nobody has opposed this measure in the face of this emergency. They say that in these days the Bank of England lost $600 million in 1 or 2 days. We have not lost anything. Our reserves remain untouched and we are operating perfectly well.

[Question] It was said that people were putting their money under the mattress because substantial taxes were to be imposed.

[Answer] Nothing of the sort. Nothing. Ours is an economy of peace, with a conflict and that's all, and nothing is going to happen.

AIR BLOCKADE THREATENS OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES

PY180224 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2158 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 17 Apr (NA) -- The air blockade that has been announced by Great Britain, added to the proclamation regarding naval actions, is considered by the Argentina military sector to be the virtual beginning of hostilities in the southern Atlantic, naval sources have revealed.

Britain's intention of ordering war planes into the islands' airspace has the basic objective of depriving Argentina of its airlift that links the continent with the insular territories.

"If this is achieved," a high ranking military source said, "we will be on a war footing, because England will have to put planes into our space."

Military sources have also stressed that the naval blockade has lacked efficiency, emphasizing that its specific aim has not been achieved.

Within this context, it has been assured that the Argentine Armed Forces will only open fire on the British vessels if it is very necessary to do so," because within military circles there is the presumption that the British forces will act in the same way.

Finally, the sources indicated that for the time being Argentina has made no decision regarding the breaking of the British naval blockade when it is instituted.

"While there is no need to break the blockade," the source said, "it will not be broken, because we are not interested in provoking a situation of war."

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the commander of the South Atlantic Theater of Operations (TOAS), Vice Adm Juan Jose Lombardo, has travelled to the federal capital from the Puerto Belgrano naval base, where the navy high command is constantly evaluating the situation.

Although there is no official information, it has been learned that Lombardo will hold a meeting here with the top ranking officers of the navy and will then return to his base of operations in Puerto Belgrano.

According to opportunely made estimates, the royal British fleet, which is travelling toward southern waters, should arrive in the area of conflict during the first days of next week, while 4 days ago units of the Argentina Navy, based in Puerto Belgrano, again went to sea.

Moreover, the deployment of troops and weapons continues from the cities of the southern Atlantic seaboard to Puerto de las Islas Malvinas, where, according to the latest estimates, there are approximately 10,000 soldiers.

both in Comodoro Rivadavia and in Rio Gallegos the civil defense authorities continue to prepare measures for guaranteeing the security of the population in case of armed attack.

ARGENTINE, BRITISH FLEET MOVEMENTS REPORTED

PY171634 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] .˜ lle the world continues its expectations before the possible outcome of events and tne meetings are taking place without cease in the highest international agencies, a large number of warships continue sailing down the Atlantic below the Equator. The Argentine and British fleets are getting ready to enter into combat, if the negotiations fail.

Thus, while the fleet of warships of the British Navy sail toward the South Atlantic, leaving behind them the strategic enclave of Ascension Island where its ships were able to take on supplies, corvettes, frigates and missile-bearing destroyers of Argentina, in addition to its aircraft carrier, have taken up position the length of the maritime coastline close to the Malvinas Islands.

It was learned that several ships were actually sailing in the San Julian Gulf area off the Province of Santa Cruz, while others are patrolling farther south.

What is admitted in the military sphere consulted is that the Argentine ships are sailing in the military exclusion area, determined by Great Britain, making use of legitimate national rights and not recognizing the virtual English blockade.

On the other hand, a high naval source said yesterday in Bahia Blanca that among other things there are English, Argentine and other submarines that are neither English nor Argentine, that is submarines belonging to the two opponents and to third parties in the area.

The naval spokesman also spoke of Brazil's military movements and pointed out that it was reasonable for the fleet to have sailed from that country toward the high sea. I don't want to qualify this as either positive or negative, he said, but it is a logical action, it is of a preventive nature. He then went on to recall the good relations between our two countries so that it is reasonable to expect them to be our allies rather than theirs.

Regarding the entry into force of the Inter-American Treaty for Mutual Assistance, the TIAR , he said that it is among the resolutions that are always in force until the time comes for using them. But from the moment in which they are used, he explained, there is no going back.

SIX REPORTERS ARRESTED AS SPIES, RELEASED

Three UK Reporters

PY162147 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2137 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Ushuaia, national territory of Tierra del Fuego, 16 Apr (NA) -- A reliable source reported this afternoon that three British reporters have been arrested in Rio Grande on charges of alleged espionage activities.

The arrested have been put at the disposal of Carlos Jose Mario Sagatume, first appeal federal judge of the national territory of Tierra del Fuego.

The arrested have been identified as Simon Winchester of the SUNDAY TIMES and Anthony Robert Prile and Ian James Moder of the OBSERVER who were passing through this city.

According to the source the three journalists were arrested last night when taking pictures nearby the Rio Grande naval base and have been transferred by airplane to this city.

American Reportedly Arrested

PY180410 Paris AFP in Spanish 0353 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (AFP) -- One of the three Canadian Broadcasting Company television journalists detained for espionage by the Argentine Army in Comodoro Rivadavia, 1,500 km south of here, is a U.S. citizen and the other two are Canadian, a military spokesman said today.

The American citizen is 34-year-old Samuel Serrel Hillmann [as received], who comes from Chicago.

Arrests Spark Concern

PY181150 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0245 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- About 20 foreign reporters who are here expressed tonight their "great concern" over the arrest of journalists in Rio Grande and Comodoro Rivadavia and also labeled as "unacceptable" the charges of "spying" made against them.

These remarks were conveyed through a note signed by the reporters and directed to Hernan Massini Ezcurra, official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, and placed on a bulletin board located on the second floor of the Sheraton Hotel in an office for the press set up there by the U.S. Embassy.

The note says that the arrested reporters "are without exception members of the international press corps." The note directed to Massini Ezcurra says that he would react in the same manner "if an Argentine reporter got a similar treatment any place in the world."

Those who signed the note include the special correspondents of the New York TIMES, ABC News, Los Angeles TIMES, Washington POST and the Philadelphia INQUIRER.

Foreign Journalists Released

PY181506 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1430 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 18 Apr (NA) -- Judge Carlos Sanz Almagro has ordered the release of the three foreign journalists who were arrested on charges of espionage.

According to the judge's resolution there is no clear evidence justifying "strong indications or incomplete proof of the existence of the crime for which they were arrested."

The resolution indicates that the journalists were given back their work material except a video roll containing scenes compromising for Argentine security.

The journalists released are: Samuel Serrel Hillmann, 34 years of age, a U.S. citizen and producer for the CBS team; and the Canadians David Robert Wilson, 42 years of age and John Roger Axelson, 30 years of age. Argentine translator Ricardo Rivarola, 37 years of age, has also been released.

The four persons were arrested near the local air base when taking pictures of military preparations.

After their arrest they were taken to the federal police station where they spent the night. They were then interrogated in the Comodoro Rivadavia Federal Court all day yesterday and early today.

The release of the three journalists and the Argentine translator took place at 0300 this morning.

MILITARY BARS NEWSMEN FROM FALKLAND ISLANDS

PY171453 Paris AFP in Spanish 2009 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Comodoro Rivadavia, 16 Apr (AFP) -- Col Esteban Solis, head of civilian affairs at the Army V Corps, stated again today that military information will not be released and that newsmen will not be permitted to go to the Malvinas Islands to exercise their profession.

KELPERS TO BE GRANTED ARGENTINE PASSPORTS

PY162132 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] It has been decided, although it has not been approved yet, that the Argentine authorities will grant Argentine passports to the Malvinas residents.

This document will entitle them to enter and leave the country at any time and to any part of the world.

It must be noted that under British rule, these persons were granted a special passport which entitled them to travel exclusively to the UK and they could do so only once a year.

UN EXPECTING PETITION TO ADMINISTER FALKLANDS

PY162106 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2057 GMT 16 Apr 82

[By Michael Littlejohns]

[Excerpt] United Nations, 16 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is making preparations regarding a possible petition that will ask the international organization to administer the Malvinas Islands while negotiations are carried out to reach an agreement regarding their sovereignty, officials reported today.

The sources said that this possibility is the basis of certain ideas and contingency plans that the general undersecretary, Raffeuddin Ahmed, announced when he was named to head a brain trust to look into the crisis that is confronting Argentina and Great Britain.

At least two U.S. political experts, George Sherry and James Sutterlin, are giving advice to Ahmed, the sources added.

The UN spokesman asserted that Perez de Cuellar, who suspended a 19-day European trip in order to return to New York on Monday, last week asked Ahmed to begin the planning phase.

The spokesman declined to go into details, but other sources said that high-ranking officials of the organization believe that if Argentina withdraws from the Malvinas in accordance with an agreement that will leave the topic of sovereignty pending, it would be useful to both the parties that an interim UN government be installed in the southern Atlantic archipelago.

There was no comment from Argentine and British officials, who are waiting for the results of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's talks in Buenos Aires and his eventual return to London to hold talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Perez de Cuellar has repeatedly said, and his spokesman repeated it today, that the secretary general will not intervene while Haig's peace mission continues.

Nevertheless, Perez de Cuellar has made it clear that he is ready to intervene if a request is made.

Note to Security Council

PY170714 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0328 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (TELAM) -- San Martin Palace tonight released the text of a note the Argentine Government submitted to the UN Security Council:

Mr President. I have the honor of addressing you, on express instructions from my government, to express the disposition of the Republic of Argentina to comply with Resolution 502, just as stated in my previous note of 12 April 1982.

The negotiations initiated with the friendly participation of the secretary of state of the United States prove my country's determination to find a peaceful solution to the dispute. Therefore, no allegation can be made that Argentina is refusing to comply with such a resolution.

Few hours after Resolution 502 was adopted, the United Kingdom announced that it was dispatching a fleet of warships. This measure was later supplemented by that country with the announcement and implementation of a naval blockade and the reinforcement of that fleet with more units, including nuclear submarines.

Now a British message has been given to the international civil aviation organization to the effect that the air space above the area of the blockade has been declared an emergency zone on the basis of Article 89 of the Chicago convention which makes provisions for both cases of war or emergency.

Those measures are quite serious and have been adopted after the council resolution has been passed. In view of this, it does not stand to reason that Argentina should unilaterally comply with said resolution, thus placing itself in a position of not being able to provide for its defense.

The British procedure is incoherent because, on the one hand, Great Britain resorts to the security provisions in the charter, and on the other hand, it threatens to use force. This attitude is intended to conform the outmoded concept of punitive expeditions with a subjective interpretation of international law, an interpretation that was questioned even in the era of the most brutal colonialism.

The measures of self-defense that country invokes are not applicable to this case. Such measures should be reasonable, suited to the needs of self-protection, and commensurate with an imminent danger. No argument can be made that the measures adopted meet such conditions. On the contrary, the mobilization of the fleet and the blockade constitute acts of war which endanger international peace and security. There is not at this time, nor at any previous time, any threat to interests that Great Britain has the right to protect. As for the dispute itself, it can be resolved through peaceful means as Argentina is willing to do.

The Security Council has its own means to ensure compliance with its decisions whereby none of the parties is authorized to employ its armed forces to bring about a solution. The use of force would in fact imply an attempt at recolonization, something unprecedented in the history of the United Nations.

Great Britain intends to separate the situation of the Georgias Islands from that of the Malvinas, thus disregarding the fact that the same resolutions apply to both archipelagos, just as was expressly established by the special committee charged with examining questions regarding the implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples under identical consideration.

As can be gathered from the acts of the Security Council, the British Government itself admitted its determination to expel by force, if necessary, the Argentine workers hired by a commercial enterprise through a valid contract to dismantle a whaling station on the South Georgia Islands.

The landing of British marines on the South Georgias for the aforementioned purpose forced Argentina to adopt measures to defend its own unarmed citizens.

In view of the announcement that a fleet was being dispatched, thus clearly exposing the British unwillingness to comply with the provision of Paragraph 1 of Resolution 502, Argentina had no other alternative left but to exercise its right of self-defense under Article 51 of the charter for the protection of its citizens within its own territory.

Proclaiming the principle of peoples' self-determination is only a political excuse that has always been wielded by the United Kingdom so as to indefinitely disrupt the territorial integrity of my country and to maintain a colonial situation.

By so acting, Great Britain sidestepped the definitive solution of the dispute in flagrant violation of provisions stated in several resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. It is not inopportune to remind the council of the declaration of the General Assembly stating that the maintenance of colonialism in whatever form is a crime against the Charter of the United Nations.

My government has persisted to the point of exhaustion in its firm unswaying determination not to alter the life style of the islanders as well as to provide for their wellbeing. As a melting pot of immigrants, Argentina has demonstrated that diverse ethnic and cultural groups can, within its territory, maintain their traditions without restrictions.

Just to mention one of the numerous declarations substantiating the assertion in the precedent paragraph, it should be pertinent to quote a passage in a note sent by the association of British farmers and British descendent in Argentina to the prime minister of the United Kingdom: We, British citizens and descendents of British farmers in Argentina, wish to inform the government of Her Majesty that, for years and for generations in some cases, we have happily lived and worked under Argentine Governments of different political orientations. We have lived in accordance with our traditional British life style without obstacles of any sort, and our experience leads us to believe that the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands have nothing to lose and much to gain by agreeing to live under Argentine sovereignty.

It shounds ironic that the United Kingdom should now express so much concern over the fate of the islanders after decades of neglecting them as second class citizens who cannot freely take up residence in Great Britain, in a state of practical isolation, and hindering normal relations between the islands and the Argentine mainland. The right of legitimate self-defense now invoked by Great Britain can only be exercised to repel an imminent and grave danger. In the present circumstances, the United Kingdon cannot allege that such an imminent and grave danger exists. Argentina has abided by the resolution of the Security Council regarding cessation of hostilities and it has not threatened the United Kingdom with any sort of hostile act. On the contrary, Argentina has several times reiterated its willingness to accept a peaceful solution to the conflict and that, to that effect, it is ready to negotiate any proposal provided it does not affect the Argentine sovereignty over the territory of the Malvinas, Georgias and South Sandwich Islands.

PRESIDENT GALTIERI'S NOTE THANKS FIGUEIREDO

PY161701 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network 1610 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] President Galtieri, in a note addressed to his Brazilian counterpart Joao Baptista Figueiredo, stated that the Argentine citizens feel that the deep affection which they have demonstrated to Your Excellency during your visits to Argentina has been generously returned with the attitude you have adopted.

The note continues to state that these moments demonstrate the authenticity of the friendships which are easy to proclaim in times of peace, but reveal all their deep human and national content or disappear in the illusion of a hollow rhetoric when subjected to the trial of difficult times.

PURCHASE OF BRAZILIAN EQUIPMENT CONSIDERED

PY171456 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Apr 82 p 13

[By Rosental Calmon Alves]

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires -- The Argentine Government has officially asked the Brazilian Government to approve the supplying of arms and military equipment by Brazil's war material industry to the Argentine Armed Forces, in order to face the partial international blockade imposed on this country in the wake of the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands crisis.

An Argentine source in close contact with Brazilian-Argentine affairs has told JORNAL DO BRASIL that Brazil's official answer has been positive.

Brazilian and Argentine authorities officially claim not to be aware of any negotiations in this regard, but they add that it would not be strange that such negotiations may develop since that kind of deal is considered at the commercial level and, besides, Brasilia has been making offers to Buenos Aires for a long time. Thus far, deals were not closed simply because Argentina, disclosing an open resistance to Brazil, has preferred to buy the same material from other countries.

The source consulted in Buenos Aires, who did not want to be identified for obvious reasons, did not know whether a specific order has already been made, but remarked that Argentina's main interest centers around the air force.

ANDEAN PACT RESOLUTION CONDEMNS EEC ACTIONS

PY171944 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1857 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 17 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Andean pact today asked the EEC to lift the economic sanctions imposed on Argentina as a retaliation for the Malvinas occupation carried out 2 weeks ago.

This is the text of the resolution issued by the subregional organization and signed by representatives from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela:

The commission of the Cartagen agreement, during its 32nd period of special sessions held at its headquarters between 14 April and 16 April 1982, learned with deep concern about the strict economic sanctions imposed by some industrialized countries or Argentina in the wake of the Malvinas Islands conflict, aggravating the dispute raised between Britain and that Latin American country.

The commission considers that those measures should be lifted, since they increase the tension currently affecting the international community in the wake of the above conflict and since they could gravely hurt the economy of Argentina, a developing country which has actively participated in the Latin American integration efforts.

The commission asked the [Cartagena agreement] board to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the present economic and commercial relations between Argentina and the Andean group, with a view toward promoting trade between that country and the Andean subregion and other countries from the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA).

MONTONERO LEADER SEES U.S. BIAS ON FALKLANDS

PA171832 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Telephone interview with (Ricardo Obregon Cano), former governor of Argentina's Cordoba Province and member of the national leadership of the Peronist Montoneros movement, in Mexico City -- date not given; recorded]

[Excerpts] [Cano] We feel that the recovery of the Malvinas Islands by the Argentine people is legitimate. This is an old goal and a permanent demand of all Agrentine Governments over a period of 150 years. No one was able to abstain from partaking of this deep patriotic feeling. This does not mean that we are relenting on our demands on behalf of the Argentine people against the oligarchic tyranny.

[Question] What is your opinion of the U.S. role as mediator in this conflict?

[Answer] It would be naive to think that Ronald Reagan's administration can act as a neutral mediator through Secretary of State Haig. We know perfectly well that its best ally is Mrs Thatcher's conservative and reactionary government in England. Also, the recently submitted proposal to establish a tripartite government in the Malvinas clearly shows the intentions of U.S. imperialism. While purporting to act as a mediator, it is obviously trying to favor the British Government.

EMBASSY IN NEW ZEALAND TO BE CLOSED

PY161923 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1628 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Apr (NA) -- It was officially reported that the Argentine executive branch has decided today to close the Argentine Embassy in the capital of New Zealand.

It was noted that "this is in view of the position adopted by the New Zealand Government regarding the present Argentine-UK conflict."

This decision has been adopted through Decree No. 756 and it will be carried out through the Foreign Ministry in compliance with pertinent administrative measures."

COMMENTATOR HINTS AT POPULAR SUPPORT FOR USSR AID

PY181212 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1733 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Commentary by Jorge Lozano: "Between Pride and Responsibility"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA) -- Had Gen Alexander Haig come to Buenos Aires 24 hours earlier to watch the game played by the Argentine and Soviet national soccer teams, in addition to seeing a pitifully tied game, he would have confirmed the "recognition" by the crowd -- about 55,000 people -- of the Soviet "national colors." This is a basic factor which must be taken into account to understand, from the people's standpoint, the risks involved in the Argentine-British conflict. The "recognition" stems from very simple political reasoning: Great Britain "attacks" us, the Soviet Union "defends" us.

Perhaps this reasoning entails a large number of "invisible" complexities for most people whether they are Argentine, British, North American, Soviet or Moroccan, but what is valid or prevalent in politics ultimately rests with the brief, straightforward opinions of the majority and almost never with the elaborate judgments of a minority of intellectuals. this is at least true when governments seek the people's support for their most important decisions.

This simple political factor, which is apparently weak, can in no way surprise U.S. and British leaders, much less General Haig or Mrs Thatcher, because an extravagant "advertising" campaign has been mounting both in the United States and in the United Kingdom in recent days. This campaign is designed to sell an idea which is genuinely Anglo-Saxon: Argentina is "pro-Soviet." The sale of this curious idea began in Great Britain, the United States and Chile in the face of the strengthening of commercial ties between Buenos Aires and Moscow. Yet it is proper to state that none of those enthusiastic salesmen noted in his commercials that Argentina's trade ties with the Soviets had been established from Buenos Aires by the best "friends" of the "Western" financial establishment: former Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz and his "boys."

I do not believe it necessary to explain now why those best friends of Washington and London were forced to sell more than 70 percent of Argentine raw materials to socialist markets.

Reagan and Thatcher know why. It could even be stated that they were not extremely concerned about that, perhaps because they had "other more important matters" to attend to. It is well known that the British Conservatives will not waste their time in "wild" matters concerning those living in the outskirts of the civilized world, that they would only listen to the ideas of "old peoples." Naturally, for the "Tory mentality," Argentina is a "wild suburb" and the Argentines made up "a confusing colony of monkeys."

The Argentine Military Government has actually unsuccessfully ventured for more than 6 years up the slippery stairs of the "supreme Western power." There it only received disdain, misunderstanding and offenses in large doses. The fact is that the Argentine military, to no avail, attempted to demonstrate they were struggling for "philosophical principles" of the West, without noting that at the top of the "supreme power" only the dull, transitory recommendations of the Trilateral Commission and the acid theories of the "famous Chicago school" were cherished.

These misunderstandings by the Western elite are not new. Since the 1950's, its sweeping misunderstandings resulted in bringing millions of square kilometers of Western territories under the Kremlin's zone of influence. Most of those territories that have "fallen" had been stepped on and fertilized by the British and the Americans. Is this a coincidence or a consequence? Perhaps the correct answer could be found in Washington and London files.

Now the Anglo-Saxon advertisers (and also some "ingenious" Argentines) contend that Soviet influence prevails in Argentina. This is a double edged "message" or an "indirect approach" to obtain an explicit definition. That is, Washington and London want Buenos Aires to reject the alleged Moscow "protectionist" intentions precisely at a time when the British are vowing "to crush" the Argentine military to avenge their "invasion of the Falkland Islands." This is undoubtedly an unreasonable and politically unwise position.

Who could state with absolute responsibility that the Argentine military are communists? It can be undoubtedly said that, although holding positions that slightly vary from the right to the center, the Argentine military are nationalists. Distressed by the misunderstandings of the West and to show the people that their professional capability is "at the service of the republic," the military decided to recover the Malvinas. It was neither a whimsical nor an "adventurist" move. Following the example of the Israelis, they wanted to prove to the Western powers that they also are capable of defending and recovering their national territories. That is, they decided to demand a dignified position within the Western community based on a major political "shakeup"; a dangerous but undoubtedly calculated action.

Now, perhaps Reagan and Thatcher will never believe that the Argentine military had followed the examples set throughout the world by the Jewish pilots and tank troops because they believe it would be more "appropriate" to regard the Argentines as Nazi-fascists or as communists.

What new idea did General Haig bring? "Transitory" condominium of sovereignty, perhaps a strong indemnification? This will be known in due time. Now, while the "invincible" armada continues to advance toward bringing about one of the most irresponsible belligerent actions in history, it only remains to be seen whether Haig wants Argentina to continue as a U.S. ally or if he is doing whatever might be necessary to allow the people to joyously celebrate the Soviet aid. This looks like an interesting option for Washington at the very moment when it is facing serious problems in Europe, the Middle East and Central America.

NAVY PLANS, ARGENTINE ARMS REQUEST NOT CONFIRMED

PY161330 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The Brazilian Navy task force that will arrive tomorrow afternoon at Rio Grande port should return to Rio de Janeiro by the 24th. This information was released by (Reinaldo Dias Ferreira), captain of the Rio Grande do Sul ports. He termed rumors that the training exercises are linked to the crisis between Argentina and Great Britain as mere speculation.

It has been confirmed in Brasilia that Brazil is maintaining its peaceful position regarding the Malvinas issue: [Begin relay from Brasilia] The Foreign Ministry here has not confirmed that Argentina has asked to purchase Brazilian arms. Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas pointed out that Brazil maintains its position in favor of a peaceful solution to the crisis over the Malvinas. He did not confirm the request. [end relay]

UK Force Reduces Speed

PY170531 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0435 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 16 Apr (TELAM) -- Citing information provided by a radio operator of the Brazilian Merchant Marine, Radio Capital of Rio de Janeiro reported tonight that the British fleet enroute to the South Atlantic is advancing at very slow speed, an average of 15 knots. Should the fleet continue at that speed, the British naval units will not arrive at the area of conflict for another week, an expert explained. The same radio operator said that up until yesterday the British ships were sailing at 30 knots.

The sudden reduction in speed is interpreted by Brazilian observers as a sign that negotiations for a peaceful solution are moving well and that the British should have news that a satisfactory solution might be found before the fleet arrives in the conflict zone.

Submarine Spotted

PY171515 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1457 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 17 Apr (TELAM) -- A Brazilian commercial airline pilot spotted a surfaced submarine in the vicinity of the Gulf of Santa Catarina, in the state of the same name. The pilot was able to take pictures of the submarine before it submerged, but it is doubtful that a correct identification of the vessel can be made because of the weather conditions at the time of the sighting.

Concern Over British Presence

PY171600 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1500 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro, 17 Apr (TELAM) -- Rear Adm Cesar Flores, commander of the Brazilian Navy transport force, has said that the British presence in the South Atlantic reveals that we continue to be vulnerable to intercontinental aggression. His statement was made known in the publication of a lecture he delivered at the third annual meeting of the Brazilian Foreign Relations Council, which closed in this city last night.

After stressing that the mobilization of the British fleet is a sign that we continue, like in the past, under the influence of the great international powers, he pointed out that the Malvinas crisis brought the British naval presence back to South America and set a grave precedent, in view of the territorial dispute between Venezuela and Guyana. He added: "The proximity of support bases and Venezuela's relative military weakness, compared to Argentina's, turn the Guyana problem into a case about which Brazil should worry even more than about the Malvinas themselves, because of the geographical distance."

PAPER SCORES ARGENTINA'S ACTION AS PRECEDENT

PY172257 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1723 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 17 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The newspaper EL MERCURIO today said that by occupying the Malvinas Argentina has stimulated dangerously those nations that have the intention of resolving international disputes to their advantage. EL MERCURIO believes such a procedure permits a country to resort to the United Nations or to other international organizations to gain a de facto position that will be consolidated through calls for an end to hostilities.

EL MERCURIO notes that after the Malvinas takeover Argentina accused Great Britian before the United Nations of aggression and of violating the order for a cessation of hostilities in UN Resolution 502. EL MERCURIO concludes: "In other words, after having concluded the invasion, Argentina wants the United Nations to approve its military action by preventing the attacked nation from defending itself and thus consolidating a situation accomplished through surprise and force."

PINOCHET ANSWERS GALTIERI'S FALKLANDS MESSAGE

PY170349 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0043 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Mr President: I have the honor of addressing Your Excellency in answer to the letter that you kindly sent me on 10 April in which you explained Argentina's position regarding the events that have occurred between your country and Great Britain. I thank you for the background data you provided me with regard to this delicate situation, which is a cuase of deep concern for Chile because it not only involves two countries with which it has close links of friendship, but is also a conflict that in the end weakens the West.

The learned Argentine Government knows well the position Chile has invariably maintained in regional and world forums regarding the cause of the problem. With the same emphasis, the Chilean Government has always opposed the use of threats and the use of force in international relations. Your Excellency states that Argentina has submitted to arbitration the territorial problems that could not be resolved through negotiations. In addition, it must be pointed that out countries have supported for more than 100 years instruments that permit the resolving of controversies through arbitration, or as in 1972, it was agreed at the suggestion of the Argentine Government to go to the courts. Therefore, my government is of the conviction that the observance of those documents has been an essential factor in the friendly relations between our two countries.

Moreover, I would like to reiterate our deciation to legality and Americanism, an instrument that has contributed and will continue to contribute, in accordance with the norms and principles of international law, to solutions through peaceful measures of affairs that perturb the atmosphere of harmony that must reign between nations.

In view of the above-mentioned, the Chilean Government reaffirms the terms of the declaration that is disseminated regarding the matter. May Your Excellency have the certainty that we will continue to observe with the greatest of attention the development of events, having confidence that a peaceful solution to the conflict that involves your country and Great Britain will be achieved. I take the advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency the assurance on my highest and distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, general of the army, president of the Republic of Chile.

Text of Galtieri Letter

PY170331 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0005 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text of letter sent by Argentine President Leopoldo Galtieri to Chilean President Augusto Pinochet 9 April]

[Text] Mr President: The seriousness of the British aggression against Argentina obliges me to explain to your excellency and to the people of your country the reasons for our actions. I do so with the certainty that the spirit of the people of the Americas will be able to understand the difficult moment our country is experiencing, a situation not created by the act of recovery of what is ours, but by the lack of responsibility and understanding shown by the Government of Great Britain.

Argentine rights over the Malvinas Islands are clear. The British rights, however, are nullified by the basic fact that they are the product of plunder. The UK occupied the islands by force and expelled the Argentine officials administering the islands. The 149 years since that act of violence do not legitimize its obvious original illegitimacy and do not make the continued presence of Great Britain in the archipelago normal. The reasons supporting Argentina in its claims for its rights have been recognized by the majority of the international community and have drawn clear declarations. This case has been treated appropriately as an intolerable survival of a colonial regime; therefore the need for a prompt solution has been emphasized. Great Britain, rebelling against the general opinion of the international community, has clung to the idea of maintaining an anachronistic situation and obstructing with obstinacy the path to a solution.

The Argentine attitude of constant willingness to solve this matter by peaceful means is also clear. Ever since the British usurpation, the Republic of Argentina has not stopped claiming its rights by renewing its protest through the years. During the last 17 years, and within the framework of the United Nations, Argentina carried out negotiations with Great Britain, fulfilling in good faith every one of the commitments and stipulations resulting from the negotiations. Argentina, in its 172 years of existence, has never carried out a war of conquest and has submitted to arbitration -- many times to detriment of its own interest -- territorial matters which could not be solved by negotiated arrangements. It would be difficult for Great Britain to show such an impeccable history.

The Argentine recovery of the islands has not broken this long tradition. It has been carried out as a last resort in view of an arrogant provocation by Great Britain in its attempt to delay ad infinitum the discussion of the Argentine rights. It has been carried out with extreme care not to hurt the people and the properties of the islanders, even if this meant -- as actually happened -- an additional risk for the Argentine forces. In this regard, Great Britain cannot show an exemplary past either. This has now been confirmed with the British answer of sending a punitive expedition worthy of colonial times.

The desires of the 1,800 inhabitants of the islands have been used repeatedly by Great Britain as a pretext to block any progress in the negotiations. Argentina has kept in mind at all times the need to respect the interests of these inhabitants and has given concrete proof of it by providing services which in practice are the islands' only means of communication with the rest of the world.

We are facing a military aggression of unprecedented proportions. Great Britain is moving, according to its own assertion, the best of its naval power from the ends of the earth toward our coasts, thus entering a world which does not belong to it. The purpose of this maneuver is to punish the Argentine forces for having recovered, without hurting anyone, a territory which belongs to them. We are, therefore, faced with major military aggression. Our reiterated willingness to negotiate will not bias our determination to resist aggression.

In addition to the military aggression, Great Britain is now exerting pressure to stage economic aggression, which violates the principles and rules of international economic relations and which sets a precedent that the developing nations cannot accept without hurting their own interests.

To cover up the diplomatic mistakes made during the handling of the incident, which brought about this situation, Great Britain has contended that our action was based on miserly reasons caused by internal policies. The British Government is resorting to contentions that are clearly refuted by all the political, economic and social forces of Argentina. These forces have been sharing the same views on this subject for many years, notwithstanding other disagreements that may exist between them.

The people of the islands has been respected and their rights and sytle of life will be preserved. The millions of foreigners who have found peace and jobs in our country are proof of this assertion and refutation of the absurd claim that we intend to transform the inhabitants of the islands into some kind of captives of an uncivilized nation.

An insignificant incident -- that in South Georgia -- was turned into a serious bilateral crisis as a result of the disproportionate British reaction. Great Britain places us in a situation in which we had no option when it threatened to resolve the incident through force. The sabre rattling that they indulged in then proved to us their real intention never to negotiate the sovereignty over the islands. Now, another disproportionate reaction is attempting to affect our national integrity. It threatens America's peace and escalates the bilateral crisis to one of a regional and world scope.

The British paln to perpetuate colonialism is disguised under what they are trying to make public opinion believe is a disciplinary deed. This violates points 1 and 3 of UN Security Council Resolution 502, and prevents us from observing it ourselves. We have made clear from the beginning of this crisis that we will negotiate everything except our sovereignty, morally strangthened by the solidarity that the American community has expressed to us during the long years of British deprivation of our sovereign right.

I convey my greetings to Your Excellency, the president of the Republic of Chile, Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte.

CARABINEROS BEGIN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION

PY180456 Paris AFP in Spanish 1900 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 17 Apr (AFP) -- After a series of murders in which some of its members appear to have been involved, the Chilean Carabineros militarized police have initiated an internal investigation of the backgrounds of its 27,000 men, it was learned here today. The director general of the Carabineros and member of the government junta, Gen Cesar Mendoza, confirmed the existence of this investigation, which includes both officers and troops.

The measure was taken after the detention of two Carabineros for carrying out 10 murders and sexual attacks over a period of 18 months in the elegant seaside resort of Vina del Mar, 140 km west of Santiago. To these has been added a third official, who was detained in recent hours, also for supposedly participating in the so-called psychopathic crimes of Vina del Mar. Meanwhile, two Carabineros were dismissed this week in the cities of Osorno and San Antonio -- south of the capital -- after killing two unarmed civilians, according to reports.

Together with these measures, the government of President Augusto Pinochet at the beginning of April ordered the creation of a police coordination center to oversee the work of those services.

LEMOS SIMMONDS REPLIES TO HAIG FALKLANDS LETTER

PA161730 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Text] Bogota -- Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds today answered the letter that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig sent him on 13 April. In his reply, Lemos Simmonds stresses the efforts that Haig has made for a prompt solution to the dispute between Great Britain and Argentina over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands. He stated that Colombia will support any action that guarantees peace in the continent. The text of the foreign minister's letter is as follows:

[Begin recording of unidentified official] Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds today sent a message to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in reply to a message that Haig sent him 2 days ago. The text of the Colombian foreign minister's message is as follows:

Dear Mr Secretary:

Thank you very much for the thoughtful letter you sent me on 13 April which, as is logical, I have given the most attentive and careful consideration. My government and I have followed with deep interest the arduous mission of good will that, at the request of President Reagan, you are carrying out to achieve a diplomatic solution to the Malvinas crisis and thus to remove the threat of a war that would be disastrous not only for the two countries in conflict but also for the entire international community. [end recording]

This was part of the letter that Foreign Minister Lemos Simmonds sent to Secretary of State Haig.

PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT PLANNED FOR 8 MAY

PA161621 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Bogota -- In a presidential summit that will be held in San Jose, Costa Rica on 8 May, the chiefs of state of Latin America will seek continental agreements that will permit them to halt the expansion of international communism, to adopt common strategies to confront guerrilla action and to decide on formulas to strengthen democracy in the hemisphere.

The Latin American presidents will take advantage of their presence at the inauguration of new Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge to broadly analyze the situation in the Caribbean region and the political causes that maintain a large zone of Central America in turmoil. They will also study the prospects that exist for improving relations among the governments.

It has been learned that the presidential summit meeting will decide on formulas that will strengthen the operative mechanisms of the OAS.

President Turbay Ayala will attend the meeting with a delegation that will include Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR'S RESIGNATION -- The government has accepted the resignation of Mariano Hernandez as Colombian ambassador to the FRG. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Apr 82 PA]

PRESIDENT DENOUNCES ECONOMIC MEASURES BY EEC

PY182140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1949 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 18 Apr (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde today denounced the EEC economic blockade against Argentina as aggression against all Latin American countries.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella said that if there is an attack, Latin American countries will be united strongly through the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR], which Argentina has not yet resorted to since it hopes that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig will be successful in his negotiations.

During his usual Sunday press conference, the Peruvian president said the principle of the TIAR, which states that an attack against an American country is an attack against the entire hemisphere, should also be applied to economic aggression. He added: This is why the Andean Pact has adopted a clear position in support of Argentina if such uncalled-for measures are enforced, even for a temporary period. Belaunde noted: We are good clients of Europe, but we also supply Europe with very important resources. This is a relation of mutual benefit; therefore it is foolish to enforce these measures which hurt the Latin American family of nations.

Moreover, Foreign Minister Arias Stella noted that for the time being the solidarity of Latin American countries has not gone beyond words, while European countries have shown more unity. After noting the difficulties of imposing economic measures against the European countries, Arias Stella said a controversy between two friendly countries sharing the same ideology obliges us to seek a peaceful solution. However, he said that if there is an attack, Latin America will be united strongly.

MINEWORKERS START INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE

PY160635 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1804 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 15 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Labor union sources have reported that approximately 3,600 mineworkers today started a general and indefinite strike demanding higher salaries and the reinstatement of dimissed workers.

A spokesman for the Mining Federation said the workers of the Cuajone mine in the Ilo area, who are employed by the U.S. firm of Southern Peru Copper, called the strike following their fruitless demands for a salary readjustment equivalent to $100.

The federation's organization secretary, Guillermo Diaz, denied the government's contention that the strike is political. He said the strikers are demanding the reinstatement of dismissed workers, including Victor Cuadros, who is the federation's present secretary general.

Cuajone is an important copper center in the southern part of the country and produces 110,000 tons daily.

ALVAREZ CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE WORLD WAR

PY151554 Paris AFP in Spanish 1503 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 15 Apr (AFP) -- Uruguayan President Gregorio Alvarez warned here today that the Malvinas Islands crisis could spark a war on the American Continent which would spread to other regions.

Alvarez stated that we fear this conflict will go beyond the continent and will involve the entire world. We are at the brink of a third world war.

However, during a press conference on the fourth and last day of his visit to Chile, the chief of state pointed out the subject of the crisis of our neighbor Argentina and Great Britain over the possession of the Malvinas was not included in the talks he held with President Augusto Pinochet.

Nevertheless, the joint declaration signed by the two presidents yesterday reasserts their governments' support for the principle of a peaceful solution to controversies and rejected the use of force in the relationship between countries.

When asked his opinion on the EEC sanctions against Argentina, due to the conflict over the islands, Alvarez stated that they are not in keeping with the purposes for which that regional organization had been created.

He added that it is a very serious precedent that measures which affect the development of the world policy and in particular the policy of some country, should be taken in the name of the EEC.

RETIRED OFFICERS OFFER TO DEFEND ARGENTINA

PY151813 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Argentine Ambassador to Uruguay Retired Maj Gen Santiago Riveros has told El Espectador that many retired Uruguyan Army officers have offered to defend Argentina in case of war and that many Uruguayan citizens from different social levels have offered their support. He added that professionals, intellectuals, workers and employees have expressed their solidarity with his country. The ambassador publicly thanked all of those persons through El Espectador.

[Begin Riveros recording] It should be noticed that we have received many letters, even from Uruguayan professionals, intellectuals and workers. I also want to stress that some retired Uruguayan Army officers have offered to fight for the defense of Argentine sovereignty if necessary. [end recording]

REPORT ON CONTACTS WITH SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION

PY171840 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Trade Director (Jorge Sienra) has told El Espectador that contacts with the Soviet trade delegation that is visiting our country are in progress. The delegation, headed by the Soviet chief of the administration for trade with American countries, has already paid a visit to (Sienra), and a second meeting is expected to take place next week.

(Sienra) said that the Soviet delegation head is conducting a series of negotiations together with the new Uruguayan ambassador to the USSR, Ambassador (Anestoy).

Soviets are interested in buying meat and semiprocessed goods in exchange for Soviet equipment to be detailed in a list that will be sent to Montevideo in the near future.

LOPEZ PORTILLO DISCUSSES TRADE WITH SPAIN

FL171651 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo today said that great conscious and determined efforts are being made to continue to develop economic, social and cultural trade between Mexico and Spain. In his closing remarks at the 16th meeting of the Spain-Mexico business committee, the president stated that the old relations between the two countries, dating far back into history and linked by language, must be planned in such a way as to face up to today's challenges.

The head of state, who was accompanied by several members of his cabinet and of the business committee for foreign affairs, as well as Spanish Ambassador Eduardo Pena Abizanda, stressed that not only can economic relations lead to an understanding between countries, but also to confidence and fraternity. For his part, Spain's vice minister of economy, Jose Enrique Garcia Romeau, stated that in the last 3 years relations between Mexico and Spain have been assigned priorities of major importance by the two countries. He noted that the lines of credit, Spanish financing of goods and services as well as exchange of technology are seen as an important factor in trade.

For Spain, he said, Mexico is a country of the first order as a supplier of industrial raw materials, principally hydrocarbons. It is not utopian to say that language has played a most important role for rapprochement between the two nations during the current international crisis. He said the Spanish Government will continue to support Mexico's economic and political initiatives, in the same manner that Mexico supported and had confidence in the process of democratization which began 5 years ago and which resulted in today's modern Spain.

Finally, the chairmen of the Mexico-Spain business committee, Inigo Iriol e Ibarra, announced that trade between the two countries grew from barely 10 million dollars in 1976 to 2.5 billion in 1981, and added that Mexico is in first place in Spanish foreign investments.

MADERO VIEWS CLAIMING ISLANDS FROM U.S., FRANCE

FL171300 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0245 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpts] La Paz, Baja California Sur, 16 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- National Action Party [PAN] presidential candidate Pablo Emilio Madero proposed here today to request from France the return of Clipperton Island, a small French territory in the Pacific that belonged to Mexico until 1931. He also stated that the treaty of Guadalupe, signed in 1847, should be reviewed because he believes the Catalina Islands, located off the coast of the U.S. city of Los Angeles, could be Mexican.

Madero explained that Mexico has no legal right over Clipperton because it lies beyond its patrimonial area, but it could be bought from the French Republic inasmuch as it was Mexican territory until 1931 and is the only island in the American Pacific not a part of a country on the continent. With respect to the Catalina Islands, the PAN candidate asserted that they are not included in the treaty of Guadalupe, when part of Mexican territory was annexed by the United States.

CONGRESS TO OPEN INVESTIGATION OF CIA

FL171619 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0140 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The congress today agreed to open an investigation into the activities of Mexico's Federal Security Directorate and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The investigation will be conducted by a committee formed by deputies and senators, and will examine CIA activities in Mexico, according to an agreement reached in today's session of the standing committee.

The legislators decided to open the investigation as a result of charges against the former director of the Federal Security Directorate, Miguel Nassar Haro, who, according to U.S. officials, had worked for the CIA while in his official post.

Socialist Deputy Carlos Sanchez Cardenas requested the investigation, recalling that former CIA agent Philip Agee wrote a book in which he involved minor Mexican officials in CIA activities. Sanchez Cardenas warned that the CIA's meddling in Mexico could exceed a simple ideological position and could become, due to its seriousness, a matter of interest to all Mexicans, independently of parties or trends. With respect to Nassar Haro, he said it is not a matter of exposing an unlawful and punishable behavior of an official, but its possible link to a chain of events which affect all Mexicans.

Sanchez Cardenas asked that the Secretariat of Government submit a detailed report on the possible relation between Nassar Haro and the CIA, measures adopted to guarantee the nation's general security with respect to foreign meddling and the result of the investigations conducted in connection with the theft of automobiles in the United States, in which the former director of federal security is implicated. He also requested that the investigation which began some months ago against Deputy Miguel Lerna Candelaria for fraud and embezzlement be reopened. Likewise, he asked that the whereabouts of a long list of persons who he said had disappeared for political reasons be determined, and that recent murders in the Tula River be investigated and the culprits punished.

The proposals of Sanchez Cardenas, a member of Mexico's United Socialist Party, were supported by the representatives of the National Action Party, the Popular Socialist Party and the Democratic Party. The chairman of the standing committee of the congress, Institutional Revolutionary Party Deputy Luis M. Farias, supported the request and ordered that the investigation be opened immediately by the committee on constitutional affairs. Farias termed the issue as "something very serious" which must be aired carefully, and stressed that the problems exists and must be tackled by the congress.

DE LA MADRID COMMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES

PA170419 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, presidential candidate of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party, PRI, has reiterated that his country will continue to strengthen its relations with Cuba and Nicaragua. During a news conference in the city of Tijuana, De la Madrid added that if he becomes president he will maintain the policy of the present government with regard to El Salvador, as well as Mexico's well-known foreign policy based on the peoples' rights to self-determination.

The Mexican Government candidate warned that foreign military intervention in El Salvador wuld represent a grave threat to world peace.

In his remarks to newsmen, Miguel de la Madrid also commented on the undocumented Mexicans working in the United States. He called for unrestricted respect for their human and labor rights.

COSTA RICA

PASTORA REITERATES CHARGES AGAINST FSLN LEADERS

PA182054 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2004 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Excerpts] San Jose, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, "Commander Cero" of Nicaragua, rejected the charges of treason made against him by the nine commanders of the FSLN Directorate and now warns them that "they must abandon power or face the consequences."

During the night, Pastora sent "in a mysterious manner," a recording which was aired this morning by radio stations loyal [words indistinct] From somewhere in Costa Rica, Pastora reiterates the charges against the current Nicaraguan Government leaders for "having diverted the Sandinist revolution toward Marxism-Leninism."

Eden Pastora disclosed that over the past few days he has received "a wave of threats" on the part of the Nicaraguan Government for his statement last Thursday and the charges which he made against the Nicaraguan Government leaders. Among the new charges made by Eden Pastora against the "Marxist Sandinists" is that of having violated freedom of the press "worse than Somoza did," and added that now they "attempt to gage all of the people."

Pastora states that in the past few hours he has received more information on how they are trying to wipe out any possible influence of his in Nicaragua, "reaching the extreme of burning the identification cards of the militia members" because they have his signature. "I will return with a rifle in my hand to sign new cards," the commander stated.

According to Pastora, in Nicaragua "a gigantic peoples' organization is being formed to oust the commanders whose corruption knows no limits nor is anyone willing to tolerate it." Pastora concluded asking that no foreign country intervene in the affairs of his fatherland.

"We the Sandinists are going to resolve the situation. U.S. imperialism should not meddle in this affairs; neither should the Cubans or Soviets because the revolutionaries will resolve this," Commander Cero concluded.

Spadafora Shares Pastora's Views

PA170228 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Interview with Dr Hugo Spadafora by Justo Fidel Palacious on 15 April in San Jose, Costa Rica -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Would you like to add anything to Commander Eden Pastora's statement?

[Answer] I think that time and developments will prove I was right when I say that this is the most important event of Bolivarian, Sandinist and Latin Americanist significance for our peoples that for over a century since Bolivar, have been seeking their destiny as nations.

[Question] Do you share Commander Pastora's views about the FSLN leadership changing its course?

[Answer] Not only do I share his views but I think I was a little ahead of Eden. You are a Panamanian, you will recall that over Panamanian radio I criticized the present Sandinist-Communist leadership in Nicaragua.

[Question] Commander, would you be willing to take up arms again to fight in Nicaragua for the principles that Eden Pastora has advocated?

[Answer] I think my presence here answers that.

[Question] Are there other commanders who support this declaration?

[Answer] Commander Pastora will have to answer that question.

SECURITY MINISTRY STATEMENT ON PASTORA'S REMARKS

PA162158 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2132 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Press release issued by the chief of public relations of the Public Security Ministry in San Jose on 16 April 1982 -- read by announcer]

[Text] Regarding the statement made by Eden Pastora to the local and foreign press on 15 April 1982, we state the following:

1. Our comments on that statement are being made from our position as members of the government of a country in which, in line with our democratic tradition, there is absolute freedom of thought, expression and the press.

2. The remarks made by Mr Pastora must be considered to be exclusively related to political affairs of his country.

3. Remarks like those made by Mr Pastora are made continuously in Costa Rica over the radio, in the press and on television, by various groups of all ideological and political persuasions.

4. We reiterate that no foreigner may participate in electoral or internal political affairs of Costa Rica and anyone who does so will be violating our laws.

5. Mr Pastora entered Costa Rica through Juan Santamaria Airport from Mexico on 6 April and complied with the usual, normal immigration procedures.

Pastora Whereabouts Unknown

PA181659 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Unofficial security corps spokesmen said they do not know the whereabouts of Eden Pastora Gomez, better known as Commander Cero. He has not been seen at the Juan Santamaria International Airport, nor at the house he was staying before he held the news conference that has created great dissension.

The same sources said that there are no charges against Pastora, who entered the country legally. They said that Pastora cannot be arrested because he has committed no crime. As any other foreigner, he can freely go to where he wants to, a Public Security official said.

More on Pastora Arrival

PA181826 Paris AFP in Spanish 1808 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpt] San Jose, 16 Apr (AFP) -- Eden Pastora, former deputy defense minister of Nicaragua, secretly entered Costa Rica 4 weeks ago in a plane owned by the [Mexican] Institutional Revolutionary Party's (PRI) president, according to former Costa Rican Foreign Minister Gonzalo Facio in statements he made to the press. On that occasion Pastora was sent back to Mexico in the same plane in which he arrived in Costa Rica. He later returned to Costa Rica in that plane, said Facio.

The Costa Rican Public Security Ministry said yesterday that Pastora entered the country legally on 6 April but made no reference to his "surreptitious arrival" in Costa Rica mentioned by Facio. Facio referred to this incident as he questioned Pastora's decision to reveal his position toward the Nicaraguan Sandinist regime in San Jose, rather doing so in Mexico, if he apparently had the backing of the PRI president, said Facio.

Facio, who was foreign minister for 8 years (1970-1978) during the Social Democratic administrations of Jose Figueres and Daniel Oduber, does not disguise his clear support for Washington and his harsh opposition to the Sandinist regime in Nicaragua.

In his statements, the Costa Rican politician, who left his party over differences with President-elect Luis Alberto Monge, did not discard the possibility that the United States has helped shape Pastora's attitude. Meanwhile, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo has reaffirmed his support for the Nicaraguan Government.

EL SALVADOR

MILITARY 'SURPRISED' BY STATE OF SIEGE REPEAL

PA162234 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Apr 82 pp 2, 48

[Excerpt] Military sources voiced their concern yesterday over the "unexpected lifting of the state of siege and its possible repercussions of decree No 507 as regards the release of political prisoners who are accused of serious crimes."

An armed forces spokesman said that many officers had been surprised by the revolutionary government junta's failure to extend the state of siege, in view of the facts that the extremist violence has continued, and that the state of siege law, a recourse used by top officials to curb, if only partially, the acts of sabotage and other activities that tend to cause internal problems, should have been lifted without prior notice.

The sources said that the release of political prisoners, who were caught attending meetings at which terrorist attacks on military garrisons, the destruction of power installations and the kidnappings in the capital and interior of the country and so forth were being planned, would be a grave error because many of the prisoners are responsible for crimes that even include the mass murder of civilians.

Let us hope, a source said, that the state of siege will be replaced by government provisions to cover such cases; provisions that will impose penalties and sanctions in line with the crimes committed by many of those prisoners who have admitted, even publicly, to being affiliated with the People's Liberation Forces, the People's Revolutionary Army, the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, the Armed Forces of National Resistance and other clandestine organizations.

DEPUTIES RECEIVE CREDENTIALS; TO NAME EXECUTIVE

PA161650 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1535 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Distributed by Inter-American Radio Organization -- Report by Raul Beltran, direct from the Legislative Palace's Blue Room -- recorded]

[Text] The 60 deputies elected on 28 March, the 3 members of the Central Electoral Council headed by Dr Jorge Bustamante, and deputies from the political parties who participated in this electoral campaign are present here today. There is suspense locally and internationally since the 60 deputies of the Constituent Assembly are going to decide who will head the executive branch. This decision may be made within the next 72 hours.

True to our listeners, YSKL transmits to you what has already been learned from reliable sources among the new deputies. We have been informed, for instance, that today's activities will be dedicated only to the distribution of credentials by the Electoral Council officials, as the National Constituent Assembly will be officially installed on Monday.

You may ask: Why Monday, when political observers and the Salvadoran people have been constantly circulating rumors that as soon as they received their credentials, the new deputies would begin their sessions. Reliable sources indicate, however -- and according to the information of some deputies here -- there was an impasse yesterday on this matter between the Christian Democrats and the National Conciliation Party. In order to give more time, therefore, for internal arrangments and negotiations among the political parties for what is considered national unity, the National Constituent Assembly will not be installed until Monday.

The first concern of the deputies and political leaders is the appointment of the head of the executive branch. So far, although we already have the names in our possession, we may report that already there is a consenus that the executive branch will be in the hands of two Salvadoran civilian citizens, who will be named president and vice presicent of the republic.

Likewise, several important issues to be discussed once the Constitutent Assembly is installed after the appointment of the executive branch head include changes in the reforms established by the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte. These will not be substantial changes, however, according to the new legislators.

Other motions will be presented, such as the reopening of the University of El Salvador and other issues, including the probable resignation of the President of the Central Electoral Council, Dr Jorge Bustamante, in the next few days or hours. This is what we can report to our listeners for the time being.

RODRIGUEZ PORTH REPORTEDLY TO BE ACTING PRESIDENT

PA161825 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] San Salvador -- The Salvadoran political leaders decided to appoint a president, frustrating the hopes of the Christian Democrats to head the new government, according to reliable sources. The members of the new Constituent Assembly were accredited this morning, but political circles said it would not meet until Monday when one of its first decisions will be the naming of the new chief of state.

Ranking National Conciliation Party leaders told UPI that 10 days of intensive negotiations had resulted in the decision to appoint rightist Antonio Rodriguez Porth as acting president of the country.

CREDENTIALS CEREMONY HELD; SESSION BEGINS MONDAY

PA161958 [Editorial Report] San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1627 GMT on 16 April is heard carrying live over a nationwide network from the Legislative Palace in San Salvador a ceremony to deliver credentials to the newly-elected deputies and alternates of the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly.

An unidentified speaker is heard reading a record of proceedings of the Central Elections Council of 14 April 1982 in which it officially declares the deputies and alternates elected and provides a list thereof, which is then read. The document states that the president of the Central Elections Council, will deliver the credentials and adds that the deputies and alternates will assume office on 22 April, 8 days after being declared elected.

Delivery of the credentials begins at 1643 GMT. Following this, another unidentified speaker, believed to be Jorge Bustamante, president of the Central Elections Council, addresses the Salvadoran people and the elected deputies. He thanks the people for their mass turnout at the polls on election day to vote for peace and asks the deputies to remember that they have been elected to represent the people rather than their parties. He urges them to exercise wisdom in performing their legislative duties. His speech, which draws heavy applause and cheers, ends at approximately 1831 GMT. The live relay ends at 1833 GMT.

MILITARY SAYS REBELS PLAN NEW USULUTAN ATTACK

PA152234 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 14 Apr 82 p 1

[Excerpts] Military sources today reported that residents of San Pedro canton of Concepcion Batres, Usulutan Department have told the armed forces that in the village of Ujushte there is a well-fortified guerrilla camp where many vehicles are being modified to carry artillery. These vehicles are being readied for a new attack on Usulutan.

The peasants who have been forced to work in that camp told military intelligence officers that they have heard the guerrillas talking about staging a new more intense offensive against the city of Usulutan. For this reason, they explained, the guerrillas are bringing many stolen vehicles into the camp, especially pickup and panel trucks, which are being modified and equipped with 50-mm machineguns.

The residents of Concepcion Batres also told the armed forces that they heard the guerrillas say that they are being supplied with weapons and ammunition from mercenary vessels which unload every night in an isolated area of the Madresal port in Usulutan. The guerrillas also said that men are also landing who will help them in the new attack on Usulutan.

GUATEMALA

GUERRILLAS ANNOUNCE CLANDESTINE STATION AIRING

PA161313 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0336 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Guatemala City (EFE) -- The guerrillas have announced the appearance of a clandestine radio station.

The Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization (ORPA), through the use of a modern transmitter, has overridden the signal of the Radio Nuevo Mundo station of this capital, to announce the appearance of a clandestine radio station. Police reports indicate that ORPA members transmit for 5 minutes proclamations against the new Guatemalan Government and that the message, as on previous occasions, was read.

URNG CONDEMNS PASTORA AS 'CARICATURE'

PA181912 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Statement issued by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, movement "to the peoples of Central America and the world" -- date and place not given; read by announcer]

[Text] The URNG has learned with deep Revolutionary indignation of the unbelievable, slanderous and stupid statements made by Eden Pastora to Costa Rica's Radio Reloj on 15 April 1982. These statements coincide perfectly with the campaign of lies, attacks, provocations and counterrevolutionary arguments waged in the last few months by the Reagan administration and by Central American counterrevolutionary forces, with the intention of harming the Sandinist revolution.

In accordance with our duty to defend revolutionary truth and in helping to unmask this enemy maneuver, to which Eden Pastora is irresponsibly lending himself today, we bring to the attention of the people the fact that in June 1981 Pastora asked the Guatemalan revolutionary organizations to allow him to join in our people's struggle, a request that was well received because of his public commitment and his background in fighting for justice and the revolution. However, in the 10 months during which we were involved with Eden Pastora, we were able to see his surprising immaturity, his political and ideological vacillation and his deep revolutionary inconsistency. His initial superficial internationalist inclination never matured, for he always refused to take part in the fighting in the country's interior.

An internationalist's duty means more than words; it calls for action, discipline, devotion and sacrifice, things that those who merely want to think can't give. Instead, they continue to pose, making statements with empty and inconsistent gestures. The virtues that Eden Pastora claims for himself include responsibility to his people and to the peoples who are fighting for their liberation -- not for privileges. However, the latter better describes this caricature of a revolutionary internationalist.

We also wish to state that one of the reasons why our organizations decided to end all ties with Eden Pastora was the fact that Pastora continued to maintain relationships with individuals and forces with counterrevolutionary ties in the area and with the same kind of provocateurs and opportunists as he himself is.

In conclusion, we state publicly that, as a revolutionary movement, we broke all ties with Eden Pastora in the latter part of March 1982 and we refuse to accept responsibility for actions that could derive from his ambiguous, immature and irresponsible attitude against the Guatemalan revolution and against the revolutionary struggles of the fraternal Central American countries.

We emphatically and indignantly condemn his statements against the Sandinist revolution, which only serve our peoples' enemies. We call on the revolutionaries, on the peoples of Central America and on forces that are friendly to our struggle to unmask and condemn this turncoat and counterrevolutionary, who today joined the ranks of the worst counterrevolutionary agents in Central America, along with the former Somozist guards, the Mariel worms and the rest of the international scum, which will soon be swept by our heroic fighting peoples' revolutionary fire. Our people, with their fighting spirit, would die rather than be enslaved.

[Signed] Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG)

Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army (EGP),
Rebel Armed Forces (FAR)
Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization (ORPA)
Key leaders of the National Directorate, Guatemalan Labor Party.

GUERRILLAS REJECT APPEAL TO STOP FIGHTING

PA171708 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2052 GMT 16 Apr 82

[By Luis Marroquin]

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 16 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Gen Efrain Rios Montt, president of the Guatemalan military junta, asked the guerrillas to lay down their arms. However, the guerrillas have replied with an increase in their actions against the government during the last several days. The guerrillas have demonstrated with facts that they do not accept the military junta's appeal.

The increase in the number of their attacks in the last few days proves this, and in some communiques they question the new government, which is the result of a coup d'etat.

The Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT), which took credit for killing the Coca-Cola company's security chief, said that the new regime is not going to try the "henchmen" of the previous government, (?and therefore will not) do "justice for the people." The Poor Peoples Guerrilla army (EGP), which took credit for the attack against the U.S. Embassy on 31 March, accused the new government of continuing the previous government's policy.

In a communique, the EGP reported having inflicted 141 casualties on government forces in the last 2 months, in addition to having carried out several acts of sabotage and occupied several towns and farms.

Havana Reports Rebel Action

PA180328 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Apr 82

[Text] Guatemalan guerrilla groups took San Bernardino municipality in Suchitepequez Department, burned many personal documents used by the regime and seized a considerable amount of money, Central American radio stations reported. The attack occurred on Friday. It was also reported that paramilitary gangs murdered a man in Quiche Department and that in Guatemala City, unidentified persons killed the security chief of the transnational Coca Cola company.

Meanwhile the AGENCIA INDEPENDIENTE DE PRENSA [AIP] reports that the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization announced that it will operate a radio station on a modulated frequency. The guerrilla organization made the announcement on the Radio Nuevo Mundo network, formerly used by Guatemalan revolutionary organizations to protest the crimes of the Romeo Lucas Garcia regime.

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT READY TO BEGIN TALKS WITH U.S.

PA160247 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Nicaragua submitted a 13-point couterproposal to the United States regarding discussions to normalize their relations. This does not mean that Nicaragua refuses to analyze the U.S. government's 8-point proposal, it was announced here today.

In today's editions, the newspapers BARRICADA, official organ of the FSLN, and EL NUEVO DIARIO, comment on meeting held yesterday, Wednesday, in Washington between Francisco Fiallos Navarro, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, and Thomas O. Enders, U.S. assistant secretary for inter-American affairs. Both papers said they obtained this information from unofficial sources and that Ambassador Fiallos reiterated Nicaragua's approval of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's proposal as the most adequate to carry out formal negotiations leading to the solution of the Central American crisis.

According to BARRICADA, Ambassador Fiallos told Enders that he hopes the U.S. Government will set the date to begin talks and appoint its negotiators. BARRICADA further quotes Fiallos as saying that the Nicaraguan Government does not object to the discussion of the U.S. 8-point proposal, but that he submitted 13 points which the United States should accept in discussions to guarantee Nicaragua's interests. Ambassador Fiallos also said that neither Nicaragua nor any other Central American or Caribbean country should be considered as part of U.S. strategic border. Fiallos added that Nicaragua does not represent a threat to U.S. security, but on the other hand, his government is being threatened by U.S. veto at the UN Security Council. Nicaragua is willing to discuss with the United States within the guidelines of the proposal submitted by Mexican President Lopez Portillo last February in Managua, Ambassador Fiallos assured.

In a telephone interview, Ambassador Fiallos said that yesterday he submitted to Thomas O. Enders the Nicaraguan Government's position on having an effective dialogue between the two countries. Fiallos said that Nicaragua is willing to discuss the eight points which the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua submitted to our government. Nicaragua is also willing to discuss any other issue that U.S. Government deems necessary. Nicaragua suggested that this meeting take place in Mexico.

Here is Ambassador Fiallos statements by telephone from Washington regarding the state of the negotiations between Nicaragua and the United States. [begin Fiallos recording] Yesterday I talked to Thomas Enders, U.S. assistant secretary for inter-American affairs. I told him of our government's position in relation to the negotiations between Nicaragua and the United States. I told him that we are willing to discuss the eight points submitted by the U.S. Government through its ambassador in Managua last week and any other issue the U.S. Government deems necessary. We believe that the talks should be held according to the proposal submitted by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo in February in Managua, and that the talks should be held in Mexico City. We asked the U.S. Government to appoint their negotiators and we will do the same. We are willing to start the talks at any time. [end recording]

U.S. Response Reported

PA171714 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Washington -- The U.S. State Department said last night that it is carefully studying the Nicaraguan proposals on the agenda for negotiations agreed upon by the two countries to reduce tension in Central America. On 8 April the United States submitted an 8-point plan to Nicaragua, while on 14 April Managua presented a 13-point document containing its recommendations, which the U.S. Government has not yet answered.

(Allan Romberg), U.S. State Department spokesman, said that no specific time has been fixed for a reply to the Nicaraguan counterproposal, which was delivered by Nicaraguan Ambassador Francisco Fiallos to Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. (Romberg) also said that the State Department is analyzing the statements made Thursday in San Jose, Costa Rica, by Eden Pastora.

As for the Nicaraguan protest over the presence of three U.S. warships in Nicaraguan territorial waters, (Romberg) said in an innocent tone that a ship had entered the Nicaraguan waters to help two fishing boats that were lost, without making further comment.

Asks Date for Talks

PA172112 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1935 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Managua, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Nicaraguan Government asked the U.S. Government to set a date to begin bilateral negotiations, probably in Mexico. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry summoned U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton to hand him an official note informing him of the Sandinist Government's decision to begin talks soon.

The note delivered to Ambassador Quainton said: "In view of the violation of our jurisdictional waters by U.S. warships for obviously intimidating purposes, the Nicaraguan Government deems it indispensable for the preservation of peace in the area, to take immediate steps for setting the date for beginning bilateral talks and negotiations, to take place in Mexico between the Governments of the United States and Nicaragua."

It added that "this process of dialogue and negotiations will have to be kept within the framework of the proposals by the Mexican president."

The Sandinist document also noted that "it is absolutely absurd to try to exclude Mexico from these negotiations, since its main objective will necessarily have to be the elimination of the crisis in the area, from which it is impossible to exclude Mexico."

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS U.S. WARSHIPS' PRESENCE

PA161251 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Note addressed to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig by Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry -- date not given]

[Text] Year of unity in face of aggression.
Mr Secretary of State Alexander Haig:

I am addressing Your Excellency to refer to a new provocation against Nicaragua by the U.S. Government, the seriousness of which cannot be overlooked in view of the incidents and consequences that these types of situation have caused in other regions of the world.

I am referring to the presence in Nicaraguan territorial and jurisdictional waters on the Caribbean Sea of U.S. warships, including the destroyer, U.S. Coontz, which in flagrant violation of Nicaragua's national sovereignty and in a condemnable transgression of the most elementary principles that govern the relations between states, entered our national maritime territory on Monday, 12 April, and continues today to be in the zones adjacent to the Islas del Maiz, El Bluff and other sectors of our Atlantic coast. This is an act that we legitimately consider a new advance in the military interventionist plans that the U.S. Government currently has underway.

These acts of force are also a clear denial of the publicized desires of the U.S. Government to contribute to a reduction of the tensions in the region, confirming with them that your government does not rule out military adventures against Nicaragua.

On condemning this new act of force against a sovereign country -- an act which is in line with the U.S. aggressive policy toward Nicaragua as seen with the U.S. veto of the draft resolution presented in the UN Security Council which in one of its paragraphs condemned the use of threat or force -- we demand the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. warships, including the destroyer, USS Coontz, from our national waters. We energetically protest this new and unjustified violation of our sovereignty and national dignity.

I express to Your Excellency my highest and most distinguished esteem. [Signed] Victor Hugo Tinoco Fonseca, acting foreign minister.

Three Warships Reported

PA161614 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] The Reagan administration yesterday increased the escalation of its warmongering blockade which directly threatens the Nicaraguan Sandinist revolution and the Nicaraguan people's self-determination. Last night, three U.S. Navy warships were seen in Nicaraguan territorial waters near Corn Island on the Atlantic coast.

The first Yankee destroyer was signted at approximately 1300 yesterday, only 24 miles north of Bluefields, very close to Corn Island [island's name in English]. According to reports, two launches that were let down from one of the U.S. warships headed to Corn Island, but their intentions were unkown. Also yesterday afternoon, another warship that had been anchored off Corn Island left for Puerto Cabezas. Last night, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry sent a note to the U.S. secretary of state, in which it strongly protests all these punishable and violating actions.

FSLN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON EDEN PASTORA CHARGES

PA171645 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0545 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Official communique released by the FSLN national leadership and read by Rene Nunez Tellez, national secretary of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, at the Heroes Room of the government palace in Managua on 16 April -- live or recorded]

[Text] The U.S. Government's profound and wide-ranging conspiracy against Nicaragua has been extended in the last few months to establish the conditions required for a military attack on our fatherland. The latest card played by the U. S. administration involves the statements by Eden Pastora Gomez, who repeated the same arguments and charges that have been raised by President Reagan, Secretary of State Alesander Haig, Ambassador Kirkpatrick and other U. S. officials.

In the meantime, our territory has been attacked by Somozist counterrevolutionary bands ever since the victory of our revolution. Dozens or workers, teachers, youths, militiamen and soldiers have been brutally tortured and later killed by these bands. The destruction of bridges, the bombing of civilian planes and airports; the naval and aeral attacks against Nicaraguan fishing boats; the flights by U.S. spy planes over our territory; the barefaced violation of our jurisdictional waters; the spying by U.S. warships off our shores; the presence of thousands of Somozist guardsmen in military camps outside of our territory -- who receive weapons, ammunition, supplies and remuneration from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency -- and the economic and financial aggression, which imposes increasing restrictions on our people, are aimed at heightening the climate of destabilization and lay the groundwork for launching a war of aggression against Nicaragua.

The people of Sandino, who have participated daily in the battle for the reconstruction and defense of our fatherland, have now indignantly watched Pastora -- who battled against the dictatorship after heeding the FSLN's call to join its ranks -- become a blind instrument of those who hate this people's power with an attitude that deserves no comment. The statements that Eden Pastora Gomez made in San Jose on 15 April are just another link in the plans of aggression, destabilization and threats that the incumbent U.S. administration has hatched against Nicaragua.

The FSLN National Directorate and many heroic militants -- some of whom either died or survived the war -- were able to learn firsthand how imperialism and the false bourgeois opposition, with their defeatist and treasonous ideologies, closely watched the FSLN since its foundation and how they tried to deny that Sandinism was a true option for the poor. The sacrifice, clandestinity, jailings, torture and death endured by our people's best children proved in time that the FSLN was the only historical and revolutionary option our people had; that it was the only option available to the poor, the peasants and the exploited and that it opposed the historical traditions and comfortable attitudes of the exploiting classes because it rejected and continues to reject the exploitation of man by man.

In this long and hard struggle by the FSLN, the battle against ideological weakness and vacillation was perhaps harder than the battle we waged against the Somozist terror. Thus it was that Fausto Amador abandoned our ranks in 1979, betraying the people's cause. Amador, a bloodbrother of our founder Carlos Fonseca, yielded to the flattery of the enemies of the people and in cowardly fashion withdrew from Sandinism. When questioned by newsmen about his brother Fausto's desertion, Carlos Fonseca said at the time that my only brothers are those in the FSLN.

In the long struggle against the Somozist dictatorship, these acts of desertion were characteristic of those who identified themselves deep down with the class interests of the exploiters. Some of the hesitant supported the FSLN's struggle during the last years of the Somozist dictatorship, when our people multiplied their combatant strength against it.

This explains how during the process of consolidating and strengthening our revolutionary process, as we proceeded to confiscate the properties of Somozists and their accomplices; as we nationalized banking and exports, and to the extent that we made the rich pay taxes and took land away from the latifundists to give it to the peasants; as we gave illegal settlers titles to the places where they lived; as we persecuted speculators and set ceilings on rents; as we jailed the thieves and the scourges of our people; as we taught the people how to read and gave them health and education; in a nutshell, to the extent that we have been consistent with the FSLN's principle -- which demanded a revolution of the humble, the poor and the exploited -- to that same extent the hesitant and the traitors became estranged from our revolutionary process.

Today, one more deserter has joined the counterrevolution. Eden Pastora Gomez is irrefutable evidence that this is a true revolution and that the FSLN has no room for those who want to distort our process and surrender it to imperialism and to those who defend those whose property was confiscated. Pastora Gomez ceased being a Sandinist from the very time he began thinking like the exploiters and imperialists, and became a symbol of the rightist and antipopular currents that have sold out to the imperialist master.

When former Sandinist Pastora announced his determination to leave the country to join the struggle of the Guatemalan people, he was already being watched, flattered and pressured by the imperialist enemy, which was making efforts to get its own pawn within the FSLN. However, the National Directorate tried hard to believe in what Pastora said in his letter to Commander Humberto Ortega. All this time, the credibility and confidence were maintained, despite increasingly disturbing reports that we were receiving about the people of dubious moral character and forces opposed to the interests of the Nicaraguan people and their revolution with whom he had begun developing increasingly closer ties.

During every chance we had to talk with him, we made great efforts to persuade him against adopting attitudes such as those that he has now adopted, and to keep him from falling into the enemy's claws and serving as an instrument for the most obscure and nefarious maneuvers now looming against our fatherland.

We must admit that our efforts failed. In view of the evidence, all we can do is admit that someone who was once admired by our people because of his participation in the struggle has now become -- due to an absence of revolutionary solidarity and firm convictions, and in order to satisfy a personal ambition of false grandeur -- a sad sounding board of the grossest and most hackeneyed slander and lies against Nicaragua and its revolution.

The main objective sought by imperialism and counterrevolution through this maneuver is to use Pastora and his links with Sandinism to sow division within the FSLN's solid popular ranks and to make it easier to launch an armed attack against the revolution and its achievements.

In view of its resounding failure to slander and distort our revolutionary process, we must admit that imperialism has chosen the right man, this time, at the most critical moment. Following the recent humiliation suffered at the hands of a courageous Nicaraguan youth, Orlando Jose Tardencillas, a true internationalist, right in the offices of the State Department; following Nicaragua's success in obtaining unanimous support for its demand for respect of our national integrity and sovereignty at the UN Security Council; and following the failure of the elections staged by the United States in El Salvador and Guatemala, our revolution -- despite all threats -- has bolstered its prestige abroad. This maneuver is chosen at this moment in an effort to shake the determination and courage of a people who, as ours, resist the imperialist maneuvers energetically and wisely.

The arguments used by Pastora had already been fully countered by Nicaragua at the UN Security Council and at various international forums, in response to similar slanders from the White House, the State Department and the CIA. These slanders now echo in the voice of Pastora from the rooms of a hotel in Costa Rica.

The alleged Cuban-Soviet influence in the country; the presence of foreign soldiers in our territory; the excessive arms buildup of which we are accused; the threatening nature and attitude of our armed forces; the alleged murder and repression of miskitos; the indiscriminate confiscations; the criticisms and offenses committed against the hymn of our vanguard, and Pastora's obvious support for the Salvadoran genocide -- these were the essence of his statements in San Jose. With this, imperialism has added a new voice in its chorus of empty allegations in an effort to humiliate a poor and simple people and prepare a military attack.

Imperialism's biggest mistake, which was blindly repeated today by Pastora, is to have underestimated the awareness and maturity of the heroic people of Sandino, Rigoberto and Carlos Fonseca. Such awareness and maturity permit our people to easily identify their enemies. It is not a coincidence, therefore, that a U.S. State Department spokesman should reveal the latest maneuver against Nicaragua. Today it has been said in Washington that they will be more cautious in negotiating with the Nicaraguan Government Junta in view of the harsh charges made against the Sandinist leadership by Eden Pastora, adding that these accusations have reinforced the validity of the charges made by the U.S. Government against the Nicaraguan leaders. It was noted that this could considerably limit the magnitude of the agreements that Washington was considering signing with the Sandinist regime. The spokesman said that the Reagan administration now has a stronger position not only for negotiations with Nicaragua, but even more important, a stronger position before the U.S. Congress, as not only it, but now Pastora, reiterate what it has been maintaining for so long-- that Nicaragua is a pawn of Cuba and the USSR; that Nicaragua suppresses freedom, violates human rights and now, also attacks private enterprise.

The Nicaraguan people are already aware of such cases throughout their history, when at crucial moments their patriotism and determination were tested by Yankee interventions. On one side were the Sandinos, the Estradas and the generals of the people; and on the other side, the Jose Maria Moncadas, the Somozas and the generals who also carried weapons, but who shook with fear before the Yankee intervention at El Espino and chose to join the aggressor, disregarding the nation's sovereignty.

Pastora now threatens us with bullets and bloodshed and declares a war that can only be carried out with the support of imperialism, through the use of mercenaries and the same Somozist bands waiting on the other side of the border for the order to attack. Without any doubt, this will be smashed by our people in arms.

The FSLN, which won power after a 20-year struggle, through the generous sacrifice of thousands of anonymous and humble Nicaraguans and following the heroic exmaple of its highest leaders -- most of whom died in combat -- and which has led the people through the past 3 years, fulfilling the historic feat of consolidating triumphant popular revolution against the will of the U.S. Government, again swears that the humble and working Nicaraguans and all other honest men of this country who already made the interventionists and Yankee marines taste the dust of defeat, shall overcome all of these aggressive maneuvers and defend with our blood the unyielding principles of our Sandinist popular revolution. We swear not to change our hymn. We swear to continue our solidarity with the peoples who are struggling for liberation; to continue exercising our sovereign right to arm ourselves in defense of our fatherland; not to return the confiscated properties; not to return the confiscated land recovered from the landhoarders and today being tilled by our peasants; to continue to punish the counterrevolutionaries and their accomplices; to never return the banks to their former owners; and to continue to promote the programs of education, health and housing for the benefit of the working people. We swear that this Sandinist popular revolution of the workers, the peasants and the poor shall never be betrayed, and that those who may threaten or attack it will not pass.

The FSLN once again wishes to announce its firm support of the principles that have inspired this revolutionary process and that we have defended despite great difficulties, attacks, threats and conspiracies.

It is necessary to note that to the degree that imperialism and the counterrevolution engage in aggressive and destabilizing actions, this process faces serious risks. We are sure, however, that under these circumstances, the democratic political forces of Latin America and the world shall support the right of a poor people, underdeveloped, historically suppressed by the empire, to carry out the urgent socioeconomic and political changes needed.

Our people, responsibly and surely confident in the national leadership, so often proven as the vanguard of the Sandinist popular revolution, must keep in mind that this is in no way the most difficult moment we have faced and will ever face in the future. Freedom is not won with flowers, and the road to the people's happiness will still be paved with sacrifices, sorrow and danger. But we continue to advance day by day with the certainty that history, truth and justice are on our side, and we shall continue to advance with determination, even despite the dangers and threats of the enemy, until we reach the goal, dreamed by our General Sandino, of a society without exploiters or exploited. And in this difficult advance toward such a society, the hesitant and the timid stay behind. Only the workers and peasants will continue to the end; only their organized force shall achieve victory. Thus spoke our General Sandino, father of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution, on March 1928.

We fight to win. They shall not pass. Free fatherland or death! [Signed] Tomas Borge, Victor Tirado, Daniel Ortega, Humberto Ortega, Henry Ruiz, Jaime Wheelcock, Bayardo Arce, Carlos Nunez, and Luis Carrion. Managua, 16 April 1982, year of unity against aggression.

BARRICADA EDITORIAL CRITICIZES EDEN PASTORA

PA180300 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Apr 82

[17 April BARRICADA editorial -- "The First Reaction to Treason; Peoples' Wisdom and Class Awareness"]

[Text] Although the FSLN is not the first revolutionary movement of the world to be betrayed, and even if its militants, members and sympathizers did not have a similar situation for comparison, the Pastora case is just another incident in the process of ideological consolidation, a natural purge of the revolutionary vanguard.

This was revealed yesterday by the working classes and all the people when they learned of Pastora's betrayal. In factories, towns and cities throughout the nation the people expressed their condemnation in public assemblies and meetings.

This is why it is not necessary that he and others like him understand it or take it in consideration. It is enough if the people who support the vanguard understand it, because this means that the people and their leadership have a common identity and can solve any problem. This is an ideological lesson and a change that purges.

It is true that when contradictions appear in a special form of betrayal, such as the Pastora case, they serve to purge and this serves to strengthen the movement. Workers, peoples' leaders and members of the mass organization stated this in their opinions of Pastora's antirevolutionary attitudes.

In other words, there is a distinct class aroma that exactly defines the social origin of Pastora's political turnabout, typical of the conceited petite bourgeoise, as a Boaco worker said. This was also said by a Carazo worker who said that Pastora always retained the aura of the businessman about him.

Another worker also mentioned the logical political trend in the attitude of the former Sandinist and said that now Pastora offers an alternative for the counterrevolution because the Somozist guards are discredited. The certainty of this observation has deserved attention from commentators. This was the case when the State Department yesterday noted that Pastora was one of their most unsuspected agents.

The use that imperialism will give to Pastora's betrayal, however, has been foreseen by Nicaraguan workers, because the disguise of moderate Sandinism that they will place on his counterrevolutionary activities seeks credibility for his slanders.

There was also a political reaction defining an attitude. The thousands of militias with identification documents signed by Pastora simultaneously agreed to return them because: I would rather be a militia without an identification than have it with the signature of a traitor. That this attitude was held generally was shown by the militias of the 19 July Sandinist youth. From the political point of view, the greatest importance lies in the people's ideological definition of the classist nature of the bourgeoise concept of the role of personalities in the revolution.

The Nicaraguan working classes have condemned Pastora and the bourgeoise role in defining the personality of the leader, and the individualist and authentic hero within the triumph in a revolutionary process. In this case the working class also acknowledges the contribution of the masses in historical events in which men, regardless of how superhuman they feel, cannot achieve anything if they do not coordinate their personal actions with the efforts of the masses and do not follow the progressive trends of the peoples' interests.

To reject this truth is typical of the bourgeoise politicians and is the cause of his failures. On the other hand, the modest or great actions of the personalities of chiefs have greater effects on events when they interpret the historical interests of peoples.

If the cause promoted by the FSLN for 20 years had not been just and adjusted to the historical interests of the Nicaraguan masses, there would not have been a Pancasan or San Carlos, there would not have been a 27 December 1974, or the National Palace in 1978. The masses would not have reacted in September 1978 or in June 1979. There would not have been a southern front or any other front.

Pastora, as the working masses see him, has turned his back on justice and the peoples' cause. He has gone from the highest esteem to the most absolute ridicule.

JAIME WHEELOCK COMPARES PASTORA WITH MONCADA

PA181627 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman, member of the FSLN National Directorate, said that history will recall Eden Pastora as the Moncada of these times. The minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform spoke yesterday afternoon at an event held in the Chilamatillo region, Tipitapa jurisdiction, at which the availability of more than 28,000 manzanas of land for the agrarian reform project in the country was announced. In speaking of Eden Pastora's statements made in Costa Rica yesterday, Commander Wheelock said:

[Begin recording] [applause] There are Sandinos and there are Moncadas; there are Carlos Fonsecas as well as Eden Pastoras. Mr Pastora's -- this individual that history will recall as the Moncada of these times -- attitude is the same attitude that Moncada had.

What was it that he said yesterday on radio and television? He said that the revolution should not arm itself because in doing so, the revolution was challenging the United States; that we have offensive weapons when we should have defensive weapons; that the National Directorate is wrong [3 second break in transmission] with that attitude of confrontation with the imperialism, with the United States; that in any case he would prefer to do something for many Nicaraguans, thousands of Nicaraguans, not to die because we could not face [word indistinct].

Nicaraguans, many years after Moncada's words were unfortunately spoken yesterday [words indistinct] origin, the place he was born, because we know he is a citizen of Costa Rica. The people of Nicaragua must remember these words as an expression of infamous treason. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Note on Pastora

PA171337 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1054 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Note sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Maneul d'Escoto to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Minister, I have the honor to address Your Excellency to refer to the statements made yesterday, 15 April, by Nicaraguan citizen Eden Pastora Gomez. In those statements, Eden Pastora, in addition to gravely insulting the leaders of our revolution, has made serious threats against the Government of Nicaragua and the Sandinist people's revolution. In view of the situation created by the attitude of and statements made by Pastora Gomez, the Government of Nicaragua hereby declares its concern over the use of Costa Rican territory for the public dissemination of the insults and threats made by the previously-mentioned citizen. At the same time, the Nicaraguan Government wants to state its concern over the possibility that Costa Rican territory will be used for the organization of armed bands and expeditions against Nicaragua.

As Your Excellency knows, Costa Rican laws and treaties and international agreements forbid the use of a nation's territory for the promotion and implementation of actions intended to initiate or foster armed attacks or hostile actions against sovereign states. In this regard, the Government of Nicaragua asks the illustrious Government of Costa Rica to report on the measures that have been adopted, or that will be adopted, to prevent the use of that fraternal country's national territory for the organization and implementation of the threats made by Pastora Gomez. With my highest and most distinguished consideration. [Signed] Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, minister of foreign affairs

GOVERNMENT CREATES NEW PRESS, INFORMATION OFFICE

PA172239 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction Press and Information Office Communique No 8]

[Text] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction Press and Information Office informs local newsmen and correspondents of foreign news agencies that, because of the national emergency situation existing in the country and in order to give greater attention to the social communication workers, an information center has been created which will begin operating on 19 April and temporarily will be located in the Victoriano Room of the International Hotel in Managua.

The information center, which during the emergency period will be directed by Companero Herti Lewittes, minister of tourism, will give newsmen the following services:

A. Registration
B. Interview requests
C. Requests for special coverage

Local news media journalists and correspondents of foreign news agencies are requested to visit the information center and request a new registration document. Managua, Free Nicaragua, 17 April 1982. Manuel Espinoza Enrique, press and information director Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Year of unity against aggression.

EDEN PASTORA CONFERENCE CALLED 'STAGED SHOW'

FL171100 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Excerpts] The string of attacks launched in Costa Rica by former Nicaraguan guerrilla Eden Pastora against the Sandinist Directorate have raised utter rejections from progressive sectors of the continent. The vanity of the former commander has taken him far from his old comrades-in-arms who today face with great dignity the threats of aggression from the most powerful capitalist nation, the United States.

The details surrounding the press conference granted yesterday by Commander Cero, a named owed to his participation in the assault of Nicaragua's national palace, evidence an anti-Sandinist plot backed by dark and large interests which remain unknown at this time.

Pastora arrived in Costa Rica some 10 days ago in the early morning aboard a special aircraft. It is not known who put the aircraft at his disposal, hundreds of journalists, including some 50 especially invited, were taken into two buses, under tight security precautions, to a luxury hotel near San Jose. Heavily armed men kept the journalists from leaving the Hotel Los Portales [presumably name of hotel] [word indistinct], for more than an hour before Pastora showed up.

The former deputy minister of the interior and defense who, by the way, described himself as the Nicaraguan people's most beloved commander, read his statement and then answered reporters' questions. Beautifully printed copies of Pastora's statements were turned over to media representatives, evidencing an expensive arrangement, organized well in advance.

In the reports from San Jose, it is important to note the participation in the conference of two individuals, among others, who are very close to U.S. intelligence organizations. Journalist (Eduardo Borrel Navarro), deputy minister of education during the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista in Cuba and a staunch enemy of the revolutions in the continent, was taking part in Pastora's spectacle.

Within the show [given in English], apparently well staged, they turned in to Eden Pastora's sharp remarks to reporters' questions, such as when he said: If I had wanted to do it, I would have stayed and thrown them out, referring himself to the nine Sandinist commanders. But besides those individual statements, the former guerrilla commander agrees, suspiciously, with Washington's accusations regarding the alleged presence of foreign military personnel and Soviet tanks in Nicaragua.

CASTRO ATTENDS NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY RECEPTION

FL161120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Apr 82

[Text] Commander-in-chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night attended the reception to celebrate the 70th birthday of President Kim Il-song hosted by the DPRK ambassador in Cuba, Yi In-chun.

The reception was also attended by Politburo member Guillermo Garcia and alternate Politburo members Jesus Montane, Armando Acosta and Antonio Perez Herrero. Central Committee members Flavio Bravo, president of the People's Government National Assembly; Severo Aguirre, president of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples' and Luis Orlando Dominguez were also present along with acting Foreign Minister Jose Viera.